

The Leader.

"The one idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

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VOL. V. No. 249.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1854. [PRICE SIXPENCE.

News of the Week.

SECRET Diplomacy is in the ascendant this week. We hear of intrigues everywhere. In India Russian agents are doing their work excellently. In Italy Russian agents are making use of the name of Mazzini to complicate French and Austrian politics. In Vienna there is a grand diplomatic banquet, Prince Gortschakoff taking Lord Westmoreland down to dinner. In London, Baron Von Usedom is in conference with our Court: and our Cabinet is having daily councils. Is all this secret diplomacy to be followed by a peace?

Nevertheless the Governments are preparing for war. The Austrian army has been got into good condition, and is now pronounced ready. The Czar is strengthening himself on all sides and is raising another half million of men. England is getting up her foreign legion of 10,000, and sending off fur caps and comforters to the Crimea—this being the modern English way of carrying on a great war. France—that is the Emperor—has ordered more men and takes more money. And the funds go down—indicating the belief that all these preparations are in earnest, and that Secret Diplomacy will not be able to manage the premature peace.

Louis Napoleon affects to calculate on the "defensive" junction of Austria; he and the Austrian Emperor are personally, interchanging civilities and grand crosses. The diplomatic coup of compromising Austria with Russia is no doubt immense; but the circumstances do not suggest that his Majesty the Emperor of the French is very "safe." He could not have calculated that the Loan would have brought the funds down; and it was certainly a stupid arrangement to suggest to the newspapers that they would be permitted to be free-spoken in their dissertations on the war at the very moment the newspapers were finding out that the war was not popular. The ductile "Parliament" (whose proceedings, in imbecile fear lest the Emperor should "resign," parallel our own Parliament) is "passing" the Loan. But public opinion in Paris seems decidedly against the Government "measures," just as in England; and the public is beginning to perceive that his Majesty the Emperor, though a clever man, is not quite equal to carrying on a great war. Our own newspapers are suggesting to Louis Napoleon that he might now safely give real representative institutions to France—our own newspapers considering our own institutions as the real thing; but a more practical question would be, Why does not Louis Napoleon seek the

services of a real general—Changarnier or Cavaignac? He perorates, in his speech from the throne, on the "glory of France;" can he think that second-rate generals will produce glory to France?

The plan of the French loan seems to be such as is suited to the state of French intelligence in the matter of loans. In this country we consider ourselves to be further advanced—certainly to have advanced beyond the notion of a sinking fund. The plan is to raise 500,000,000 francs (20,000,000*l.*) in such form that, as in the case of the last loan, the nation can subscribe in sums and in a manner that would permit subscriptions to come in from all classes. One-hundredth part of the fund thus formed will be set aside as a sinking fund—that is, a fund wherewith to commence paying off the loan. This was an old idea of Pitt's, and was exploded even in his day. It is generations since we learned here the folly of borrowing money now to pay off money hereafter, since the simplest way would be just to reduce the debt by that amount. There is, however, every ground for the loan, since the French Government must be in funds to provide all that is needed for the war. The demand for ready cash from the whole body of the nation would evidently be more oppressive than the acceptance of the money from those who find that they can spare it, leaving the country to make good the borrowing with time and opportunity. Should the war be prosecuted to any real purpose, it is possible, nay, it is more than probable, that by beating down the anti-commercial influence of Russia, by promoting a better understanding between several states of Europe, and freeing some races now much oppressed, the commerce of the Continent may be suffered to expand, and future Governments will profit by the consequences of the war. The loan enables future France to bear her share of the benefit.

Two other questions also vex earnest minds. Something is done in the Crimea or is not done, and the public is eager for an account. What is the reason then that Lord Raglan's despatches are not published? He silences "our own correspondent;" but why does Government permit its own correspondent to be silent? Again, what is our Government doing about the Foreign Legion? There was great haste to get the bill; has there been equal haste to get the men? and if so, where are they?—of what nation?—where engaged?—on what terms?—whither ordered? The public granted the Legion with reluctance, but would like to know what has become of the article now that it is supplied?

Fond of its soldiers in the East, the country is all for giving. The Crimean Army Fund sends dainties and comforts to be given away; the great contractors present railways, labour, and management gratis; ships are supplied gratis; Gunter cooks gratis; and Cross packs gratis. All this is

very noble; but is it really the very best way of fetching out the energies of the nation, or securing the thing wanted? We doubt it. Railway companies that give rails may possibly rely on the old maxim that you must not look a gift horse in the mouth; and perhaps rails that would be discarded for Brentwood, will do for Balaklava. Supposing that the dainties are of the best, and are not condemned stores, there is wanting a check upon their consumption: given provender is mercilessly squandered. The officers, and even the men, quartered in the Crimea, do not feel the want of meals on charity; they want access to the things at fair market prices. It is the same with rails; the country could pay for the rails, could pay the navigators wages, and in paying fairly, could at once exact the very best article. Why not be true to commercial principles in war, if commercial principles are really the best way to get the article wanted, and to secure its most economical use?

Denouncing Russian intriguers in Italy, a writer at Turin also denounces the patriot party which acknowledges Mazzini for its head; and a document is published, as if accredited by "the National Assembly of Action," inviting a contribution from the Italians for a revolutionary movement. This "National Assembly of Action" is unknown to the Italian patriots and their friends in London, and we incline to believe that the use of the name of "Giuseppe Mazzini" is a forgery. The name has been forged before, and we feel safe in taking upon ourselves to deny that Mazzini, the pure and generous, can act with Nicholas the Russian.

The progress of Russia in the East vexes the mind of Bombay, but has ceased to harass Calcutta; for Lord Dalhousie has had communications with Dost Mohammed. The Dost, it seems, undertakes to keep back the Russians, already numerous, busy, and advanced, on the broad wastes of Central Asia; and no doubt he could do much to block the road of the great enemy of mankind. "Dalhousie, great God of War," reciprocates approvingly, and reads the Dost a lecture on the contemporary history of the Anglo-French alliance to sustain the descendant of the Caliphs at Constantinople. So the Dost seems likely to be appointed to the guard of that Indian portal. What if he should also take fees on the other side, for we must remember that the Dost is as wily and Asiatic as that intriguing old double-faced dealer Mehemet-Ali of Egypt.

Denmark exults in constitutionalism triumphant. The Oersted Ministry has become an antiquity. The Bang Ministry procures all it wants from the King, including complete control over the finances, and, in short, a thorough Parliamentary system. These are indications which, to the non-Danish mind, suggest a fear, that in return for these concessions the Liberals, as in 1848, have agreed to sustain the King in his foreign policy—which is a

trimming policy convenient to Russia—and perhaps in still oppressing Schleswig-Holstein. At all events, King and Commons are reciprocally delighted: he entertains all the deputies at dinner, and a respectable mob serenades him by torch-light, bitter cold notwithstanding. Sad confusion of sharps and flats, somewhere, we suspect.

The Report on the best means of reforming the Indian Civil Service, which has just been given in to the Board of Control, is one of the most important documents that have been published for many a day. It is known that some time ago the Directors of the India House, in conjunction with the Government, resolved to abandon the system which has hitherto prevailed of nominating young men to civil appointments in India by mere private favour, and to adopt a system of competitive examinations, which would have the effect of throwing open the Indian Civil Service to all the educated youth of Britain. The preparation of a detailed scheme for this end was intrusted to a commission, consisting of Mr. Macaulay, Lord Ashburton, Mr. H. Melvill, the Rev. R. Jowett, and Mr. J. G. S. Lefevre. It is of the report given in by these gentlemen that we now speak. It is an admirable specimen of what a report should be—clear, exact, comprehensive, and practical. We should fancy that Mr. Macaulay's pen has had most to do with its composition. The Report, in the first place, recommends that the age of candidates for the Indian service should be advanced, by which change a more highly educated class of young men will be secured; and it will be possible for young men to go to the universities and distinguish themselves there before going to Haileybury. Cambridge, Oxford, Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and all other seats of learning will have the prizes of the Indian service in view; and young men, who now work for fellowships and the like, will have a new course before them. The number of vacancies in the Indian civil service is about 40 annually; and thus there will be 40 prizes annually open to our young men—each being nothing less than an honourable position during one's whole life, with a handsome retiring independence at the age of about 48. It is expected that perhaps 300 youths will annually come forward as competitors for the 40 appointments. In order to do justice to these, it is proposed that the examination shall be wide and general in its nature, and such as not to give advantage to any one seat of learning, or any one part of the island. The subjects recommended for examination are English History, Composition, and Literature; Greek, Latin, French, German, Italian; Mathematics; Natural Science; Moral Science; Sanscrit, and Arabic. Proficiency in each of these subjects is to be estimated according to an idea of its relative importance—excellence in English History, Composition, and Literature, for example, counting as 1500; excellence in Mathematics as 1000; excellence in Greek or in Latin 750; while excellence in Sanscrit or in Arabic is to count only as 350. Thus, while a Cambridge mathematician will get credit for his mathematics, and an Oxford man for his classics, young men from other seminaries who may excel in knowledge of history, literature, or natural and moral science, will find these advantages tell in the result. The forty successful candidates every year ought, according to the Report, to be then subjected for one or two years to a special training, either in Haileybury or elsewhere—the subjects of this special training being Indian History, Jurisprudence, Commercial and Financial Science, and the various Oriental languages in vernacular use in India. The students are to be examined in these, and are to take rank in the service according to their degrees of proficiency.

Such is the outline of a change of all but incalculable importance as regards society at home and the Indian Service. Let us hope that it is but the prelude to a similar change in the Civil Service at home. We believe Government have still their Civil Service Scheme *in retentis* and are now collecting opinions with respect to it from men of practical experience in official life. The opinions of all our first intellectual men—Mr. Carlyle, for example, Mr. John Stuart Mill, and Mr. Grote—have been already strongly expressed in its favour; one of them, we understand, expressing his wonder and disgust that a measure which had "more true democratic virtue in it than ten Reform Bills," should have been assailed by journals calling themselves Liberal and Democratic.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

The House of Lords met last Saturday, when the Foreigners Enlistment Bill was finally passed, the amendments of the Commons being agreed to. The royal assent was given to the bill, and also to the New Militia Bill. The House then adjourned to the 23rd of January.

In the House of Commons a new writ was ordered for Kingston-upon-Hull, Mr. W. D. Seymour having accepted the Recordership of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

On the motion of Sir H. WILLOUGHBY, various returns on the subject of savings banks were ordered. After some notices of motion had been given, the House adjourned until the 23rd of January.

PARLIAMENTARY MOTIONS AFTER THE RECESS.—The notices of motions after the recess include one by Sir W. Clay, for the total abolition of church-rates, and one by M. J. P. Locke King, for a bill to repeal certain acts which are sleeping and useless, but yet in force. Mr. Scholefield intends to move for an inquiry into the practice of adulterating articles of food and medicine. Mr. Williams will urge the injustice of the existing probate duty on personal property, while land and real property are exempted; and Mr. Pellatt will call the attention of the House to the laws and regulations of rural and metropolitan public and private burial grounds and cemeteries, "with a view of inducing the Government to remedy inconveniences caused by recent stringent measures for closing old grounds without making it imperative on the parochial authorities to provide new burial grounds for the poor."

OPENING OF THE FRENCH LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

On Tuesday the Emperor opened, in person, the Legislative Session. The ceremony took place at the Tuileries, in the Salle des Maréchaux, the Empress and Prince Jerome being present, with the usual array of members of the Diplomatic Corps, Senators, and Deputies. The Emperor made the following speech:—

"MESSIEURS LES SÉNATEURS,
"MESSIEURS LES DÉPUTÉS,

"Since your last meeting great deeds have been accomplished. The appeal which I made to the country to defray the expenses of the war was so well responded to, that the result has surpassed my hopes. In the Baltic, as in the Black Sea, our arms have been victorious. Two great battles have added renown to our standard. The intimacy of our relations with England has been brilliantly attested. The English parliament has voted thanks to our generals and to our soldiers. A great empire, made young again by the chivalrous sentiments of its sovereign, has detached itself from the power which for forty years has menaced the independence of Europe. The Emperor of Austria has concluded a treaty—defensive to-day, offensive, perhaps, to-morrow—which unites his cause with that of France and England.

"Thus, gentlemen, as the war is prolonged the number of our allies increases, and the ties already formed become closer. For what ties are, in fact, more secure than the names of victories shared by the two armies and recalling a common glory, the same anxieties and the same hopes agitating the two countries, and the same aims and the same intentions animating the two governments in all parts of the globe? Thus the alliance with England is not the effect of a mere passing interest or of political expediency, but it is the union of two powerful nations associated for the triumph of a cause in which for more than a century their own greatness, the interests of civilisation, and the liberty of Europe are at the same time involved. Join me, then, on this solemn occasion in thanking here, and in the name of France, the Parliament for its cordial and warm demonstration, and the English army and its esteemed chief for their valiant co-operation. Next year, should peace not be established, I hope to obtain the assistance of that Germany whose union and prosperity we desire.

"I am happy in paying a just tribute of praise to the army and the fleet, who, by their devotion and discipline, in the south as in France, have nobly answered my expectations. The army of the East has hitherto borne and overcome everything—disease, fire, tempest, and privations, a city constantly reinvigorated, defended by a formidable artillery on land and sea, and two hostile armies superior to us in numbers, have been powerless to weaken its courage, or subdue its spirit. Each man nobly did his duty, from the marshal who seemed to have forced death to wait till he had conquered, to the private soldier or sailor whose last cry in expiring was a prayer for France, and a cheer for the elect of his country. Let us, then, together proclaim that the army and the fleet have deserved well of the country.

"War, it is true, brings with it cruel sacrifices, yet everything bids me push it on with vigour, and for this purpose I count upon your assistance. The army at present consists of 518,000 soldiers and 118,000 horses, and the navy of 62,000 sailors afloat. It is indispensably necessary to keep this force in an effective state;

and to fill up the vacancies occasioned by the annual discharges and by the war, I shall ask of you, as I did last year, a levy of 140,000 men. A law will be brought before you for ameliorating the position of soldiers re-enlisting without increasing the expense: it will be of immense advantage to increase the number of veteran soldiers in the army, and to allow in future the weight of the conscription to be diminished. I hope that this law will *also* meet with your approval.

"I shall demand of you authority to conclude a new national loan. Although this measure will increase the public debt, we must not forget that by the conversion of the Rentes the interest of the debt has been reduced by twenty-one millions and a half. The object of my efforts is to place the expenditure on a level with the receipts, and the ordinary budget to be presented to you will be found in equilibrium, while the resources of the loan will suffice to meet the demands of the war.

"You will see with pleasure that our revenues have not diminished, that industrial enterprise is sustained, that all the great works of public utility are continued, and that Providence has graciously given us a harvest sufficient for our wants. The Government, nevertheless, does not close its eyes to the uneasiness caused by the dearth of provisions, but has taken every measure in its power to prevent and lighten this uneasiness, and has founded in several places new elements of work.

"The contest which is going on, restrained as it is by moderation and justice, although it causes the heart to beat, has caused so little alarm to the commercial interest, that the different parts of the globe will soon bring together here all the fruits of peace.

"Foreigners cannot but be struck with the remarkable spectacle of a country, which, counting on the Divine protection, sustains with energy a war at 600 leagues from its frontiers, and which develops with equal ardour its internal riches—a country where war does not prevent agriculture and industry from prospering, nor the arts from flourishing, and where the genius of the nation shows itself in everything which can bring glory to France."

The principal act of the Chambers has been the business of the loan to which the Emperor referred in his speech. A telegraph from Paris, of the 28th, says:—

"The Legislative Body unanimously adopted the bill authorising the Minister of Finance to borrow a sum of 500,000,000*fr.*

"The whole assembly met in the evening at the Tuileries, to present the bill to the Emperor."

Although the speech of the Emperor contained nothing that was not generally anticipated, its warlike tone and the positive announcement of a new loan had a depressing effect, which continues, upon the Bourse.

THE WAR.

The accounts from the Crimea are still vague and unsatisfactory. However, it is very certain that great reinforcements are constantly arriving. A recent despatch announces the total number of recent reinforcements to be 18,000, and between the 13th and 20th December 8000 more men touched at Malta. Whatever engagements have taken place have been decidedly in favour of the Allies; but the skirmishes have been trifling. On the 6th, on the occasion of the anniversary *fête* of the Czar, the Russians attempted a sortie against the English army. A warm engagement took place, in which 1100 Russians were taken prisoners, and a small fort was taken. Two Russian steamers, which had come out of Sebastopol, endeavoured to surprise the *Mégère*, anchored off the port of Kamiesch. They exchanged shots with three allied steamers, which pursued them close under the guns of the batteries. Again, on the 11th, the Russians attacked the French outposts, and gained possession of three mortars, but were repulsed with the loss of 50 men. Again, on the 12th, it is said the Russians lost 700 men in a sortie.

The Turkish forces are displaying some activity. Accounts from Balaklava, of the 14th, state that 5000 Turks had landed at Eupatoria; and a despatch from Varna, of the 17th, announces the departure of a second 5000 for the Crimea. On the 11th Omar Pacha left Bucharest with 35,000 men. The point of landing has been quite unknown, and Prince Menschikoff has been puzzled, fearing an enemy in an unprepared place. Other accounts say that Menschikoff is ill, and that Osten-Sacken has assumed the chief command. It is also stated that the Turkish forces to the number of 30,000, assisted by a division of the Allies, will operate against Perekop.

Letters from Vienna say that the guns taken from the Russian vessels for the ramparts have been restored to the fleet, and that twenty-two vessels are ready for sea. The withdrawals of the Russians "to the second line of defence," reported some time ago, would coincide with this report.

Prince Menschikoff, writing on the 20th, says nothing had taken place of consequence, but that their well-directed fire interrupted the works of the Allies;

but an earlier despatch received at Marseilles says that everything is in proper condition, and the assault expected. The scaling ladders were ready, and when the firing is ordered to be recommenced it will be simultaneously from 410 guns.

A letter in the *Constitutionnel* describes the position of the Russian army out of Sebastopol:—

"As to the land forces, they are at present between the Belbek and the Tchernaya, guarding with great care the road from Simferopol to Baktchi-Sarai, by which alone they receive their supplies. They are now making an entrenched camp on the positions of the Belbek and of the Tchernaya, thinking that, because the heights of the Chersonese have become impregnable in our hands, their camp will be so likewise. Let them go on, for we know that, once that the town is taken, the famous northern fort will not be able to hold out two weeks, deprived of water as it is, and soon deprived of everything, when we shall have the command of the road to Simferopol."

Some improvements are announced in the humanity of our enemies. A Russian ukase ordains that whoever after a battle commits acts of cruelty on the wounded or unresisting shall suffer the punishment of death.

They have also given notice that any Russian subject resident in the kingdom of Poland who shall quit the imperial dominions without leave, will be punished by the confiscation of his estate and effects.

A levy of ten men in every thousand has been decreed throughout the eastern half of the empire.

At Odessa great fears were entertained of another attack. It is said to be garrisoned by 50,000 men, and various new batteries have been erected.

EXPLANATIONS FROM HIGH SOURCES.

Galignani has an article on the war which professes to have been "communicated," as far as regards facts, from an authentic source—evidently at British head-quarters. The fact of Sir De Lacy Evans having been at Paris will doubtless solve the mystery, and give a proper value to an anonymous statement:—

"The most striking point in the communication with which we have been favoured is the fact that of the distinguished officers of the British army in the Crimea, who at Varna expressed their disapprobation of the expedition at so late a period of the year, and of the plan which had been formed for its execution, not one now entertains a doubt of complete and not distant success. They foresaw the inconvenience and dangers to which the allied armies would be exposed, the privations which they would have to undergo, and the facilities which would be left open to the Russians for reinforcement; but they now regard them as evils which have ceased, and look forward with confidence to a result which will efface the remembrance of all the blunders which have been committed in the strange and sudden alternation from a policy of inaction to one of an almost rash energy, which must have been fatal but for the courage and prudence of the Commanders-in-Chief of the two armies, and the gallantry of the brave troops whom they had to lead into the field. As regards the privations of the English troops, we are compelled to admit from the authentic accounts that we have received, that they have been great; but it is not true, as stated in an English Journal, that there has been a deficiency in the provisions which had been sent out. The rations have been occasionally short, but this arose entirely from the state of the roads between Balaklava and the English lines, a distance of about seven miles. In consequence of the heavy rains, and the weak state of the horses and mules employed—these animals having for five months been picketed without the slightest covering—many of the carts and waggons stuck by the way, and consequently the soldiers were temporarily short of food. This misfortune, however, was only occasional, and has now ceased. It appears also that some of the newspaper correspondents have exaggerated the number of the Russian army in the Crimea. The real amount was not known even by Lord Raglan, for the information that he had received came from deserters, of whom no two accounts agree. One of the best generals of the English army declares that he cannot estimate the number of the Russian army outside Sebastopol at more than from 35,000 to 40,000 men. In the communication which we have received allusion is made to the Lancaster guns, respecting which such great expectations have been entertained. On this subject we will quote our informant's words: 'The Lancaster guns are a failure—their power is enormous when the ball strikes the point at which it is aimed; but the gun rarely sends two balls to the same point, and as yet no means have been found to prevent this deviation. In an ordinary gun this defect would not be so important; but the enormous expense of every ball fired from a Lancaster gun renders it impossible to indulge in a system by which only one ball in six reaches the object at which it is discharged.'

FORTITUDE AND IMPATIENCE OF THE OFFICERS.

We give the following extracts from a letter of the *Times* correspondent in the Crimea. They are interesting, but, it must be admitted, rather contradictory:—

"Officers in huge sailors' boots, purchased at Bala-

klava for about five times their proper price, trudge on earnestly in the expectation of being able to carry back to their tents the pot of preserved meat or the fowl bought at a fabulous cost in that model city of ours; don are the allotted portion of wood under the cooking fire has been consumed. It requires a soldier's eye to tell captains from corporals now. Mounted on drizzle-tailed and unkempt ragged ponies covered with mud, the pride and hope of our aristocracy, of our gentry, of our manufacturing bourgeoisie, of our bankership and shipping owners, and money-owning and money-making classes, with dubiously-coloured faces, tattered and bespattered garments, and eccentric greasy and head gear, are to be seen filing up and down the filthy passes between Balaklava and the camp, carrying out fignous hams or dishevelled turkeys, strings of onions, sacks of potatoes, Dutch cheeses, almost as fatal as Russian bullets, bread, the worst varieties of 'Goldner,' bottles of wine and brandy, crucks of butter, and assortments of sausages, from the economical but nasty scum up to the be-silvered and delicate Bologna. They are decidedly 'disreputable-looking.' The liveliest suspicions of Bow-street would be excited at their appearance in court. They are hairy and muddy, as the police reports would say, in short, 'wearing the air of foreigners'; but the vast majority of them are the noblest, chiest, bravest fellows in Europe—men who defy privation, neglect, storm, and tempest—who, in the midst of difficulties, rarely despond and never despair, and who comfort and animate by the brightest examples of courage and high valour, of constancy and unflinching resolution, the gallant fellows around them.

"The number of applications sent to Lord Raglan for leave to retire, to sell out, or to go on half-pay, is said to be very great. The Duke of Wellington had to contend against the same evil in Spain. It is said—but I do not know whether there is any good ground for the assertion, and I am inclined to think there is none—that after Lord George Paget's name appeared in orders as having received permission to retire, no less than 180 applications to sell out or go on half-pay were sent in to the commander of the forces. Some of these have, it is stated, been acceded to—that is, Lord Raglan has sent them to the Commander-in-Chief of the army, with rather sarcastic recommendations that the permission sought for be granted; others have been refused, inasmuch as the colonels of the regiments to which the applicants belonged did not approve the application. If report be true, indeed, some of these gentlemen were 'no great loss,' and the army is well rid of them. One young person, who recently retired, and who belongs to the nobility, to whose gallant conduct here he offered a striking contrast, had been publicly rebuked by his commanding officer for his disorderly and pusillanimous behaviour before he retired."

MISERY IN THE TRENCHES.

An officer of the Royal Regiment thus describes some of the hardships which are borne so bravely:

"My last letter left the camp at daylight this morning; it was then raining, it increased, then cleared up at twelve; but the floodgates of heaven soon broke loose, and such rain as pours down is only known in the tropical monsoons. It streams down the hills in rivers; and then you see the evening guards, pickets, and working parties marching off to the trenches for the night, soaked to the skin before starting. How can these men live? The death reports will be sent to me in the morning, and probably to-morrow p.m. many of them will be for ever out of sight in this world. It is of daily occurrence,—ten died last night, twenty the night before, and so on it goes. But this is only in my brigade—I don't see the returns of other corps. All the trifling detachments sent out here are but as a drop in the ocean; thirty of my last draught (they have been here but twelve days) are under ground, besides many old soldiers. I cannot see clearly how any of the great army can stand out the winter; the stoutest men are giving way. How can it be otherwise, living, or trying to live, almost naked, in mud, and worked to death in spongy rags hanging in tatters about them, and covered with Russian vermin? They cannot help it; but so it is, and there is no use in any deception."

THE TOWN OF SEBASTOPOL.

The defences in the town have been greatly increased. Many of the houses can be seen to be loopholed, and guns are planted in nearly all the streets. A battery has been erected in the Place d'Armes, the guns of which enfilade several streets opening into it. Some of the French, out of bravado, have already several times entered the part of the town near their advanced works, taking advantage of the night, and have chalked up their names and the numbers of their regiments on the walls of the houses.—*Daily News*.

LANDING A RUSSIAN AT SEBASTOPOL.

The following is from the letter of a midshipman of the Valorous:—

"Yesterday evening we received orders to take on board a captain of the Russian Artillery, whom we brought up here from Constantinople last time we came, where he had been a prisoner for two months, and now he is to be exchanged for Lord Dunkellin. He was a very agreeable guest; unfortunately, he is a perfect Russian in one point—namely, he never yet, I should think, was guilty

of going to bed sober. He talked French very well, and understood English a little. This morning he came on board at 8 o'clock, when we got under way, and hoisted a white flag, and also a Russian flag at the main; then steamed in for the harbour, and stopped about two miles outside the harbour, and then the cutter was sent in with our charge. I was the officer of the boat, a lieutenant, of course, also going in charge of the prisoner. We pulled in direct for the harbour, and landed at the north-point, under the guns of Fort Constantine. Crowds of Russians flocked down to see us, and we delivered our charge to the embraces and kisses of his countrymen. While there we managed to take a good look at the forts.

RESULTS OF INKERMAN.

The last accounts from St. Petersburg relative to the health of the Empress are of a nature to increase the apprehension of her royal relatives as to any solid improvement in her Majesty's health, and to seriously diminish hopes for the future. It is affirmed that her Majesty has earnestly demanded the return of her two youngest sons from the Crimea. A letter from Odessa, received at Vienna, confirms the latter report:—

"The great event of the day is the recall of the Grand Dukes Michael and Nicholas, which has been decided on. They will probably return to the theatre of war next spring with the Czar himself. It is stated that the princes have been recalled, because Prince Menschikoff complained at St. Petersburg that his plans were thwarted by other influences. It is said that Prince Menschikoff has received an autograph letter from the Emperor, in which the latter thanks the army for the fidelity and devotedness which it has hitherto shown, and expresses a conviction that Russia, protected by so brave an army, need not fear the whole world. By the side of these congratulations, which have been made public in an order of the day, the autograph letter contained remonstrances of a nature to prevent the recurrence of events similar to those of the 5th. The tone of the letter is so severe that it is very clear that the result of that day has produced a very deep impression on the Czar."

THE BALAKLAVA RAILWAY CORPS.

The arrangements for this undertaking appear to be very well contrived. Nine vessels, seven of which are steamers, will be employed, and the materials so apportioned that the loss or lateness of any will occasion no delay. The provisioning is precisely similar to that usually supplied to ships' crews, and the men are supplied with everything in the way of clothing and tools that can be desired. Medical stores, revolvers, missionaries, and books, have all been provided in suitable abundance. It is expected that all the vessels will reach Balaklava by the 1st of February, and that the tramway will be laid to the heights before the end of that month. No one can yet say the exact value of this auxiliary to the siege; but, judging from the reports of the present state of the road from Balaklava to Sebastopol, it is evident that if a tramway of this kind had been constructed in the early part of the siege, an immense amount of toil, suffering, and death would have been saved to our gallant soldiers and sailors; and it is likewise highly probable that the material for forming a tramway for the conveyance of heavy guns and carriages will henceforth form a necessary appendage to siege operations.

OUR PRISONERS OF WAR DESERTING.

At the Thames Police-court, Captain Wallace, the master of the ship *Star of the East*, stated that thirteen Russian Finlanders, prisoners of war on board her Majesty's ship *Devonshire*, had been released on application to the Government, on condition of their serving on board the *Star of the East*, on her intended voyage to Aden and China. They were put on board the vessel, but all but four had since deserted. A similar number of Russian Finlanders, also prisoners of war, had been transferred from the *Devonshire* to the ship *Antagonist*, which had since sailed for Madras, and the men were quite satisfied with the excellent wages offered, and also with the provisions, so much superior to what they received on board their own country's ships.

Mr. Yardley doubted whether he could compel the Russian Finlanders to proceed on the voyage, as, owing to circumstances, they had not signed the ship's articles. All the applicant could do was to send the men back to the *Devonshire*, at Sheerness, as prisoners of war.

INCIDENTS.

FRENCH MINERS AT SEBASTOPOL.—French engineers are employed in mining certain portions of ground over which the fortifications of one of the faubourgs of Sebastopol extend. The difficulties of the ground are immense, but the soldiers do not complain, and they are at times rewarded for their trouble by what they find. It appears that the inhabitants, foreseeing the reduction of the place, had buried many articles of value, which they hoped to be able to dig up when the army should have departed. They, however, did not reckon on the works of the miners, and every day these men find something of value in the shape of silver and plated articles, jewels, and costly ornaments, and amongst other things is an elegant



bonnet carefully packed in a box. The bonnet is of pink satin of the first style of fashion, and still bears the address of the maker in the Rue de la Paix in Paris. This bonnet, after having been tried on by all the men, has since been hung up as an ornament in one of their tents.

LORD RAGLAN'S LUNCHEON.—At Inkerman, when the fire was the hottest, a pony, with a pair of panniers, led by Lord Raglan's German servant, was seen advancing towards the position of the commander-in-chief. Every officer whom the man passed on his way desired him to go back, as the balls were falling thickly around, and the chances were that he would be killed. The cool German merely replied, "My master is not so young as he was; he is always ill if he does not have luncheon, and his luncheon he shall have." The man reached his lordship's post through the fiery storm and returned in safety.

POPULARITY OF THE FRENCH ALLIANCE IN THE PROVINCES.—The French soldiers now in Gloucester on "wooden-house" business have been entertained at a public banquet, at which the *entente cordiale* was pleasantly sustained.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE FRENCH ARMY.—The following is an extract from the letter of M. Drouin de Lhuys to Lord Clarendon, acknowledging the vote of thanks in Parliament:—

"The thanks voted to our army and to our fleet, as well as to their commanders, could not but deeply affect the Government of the Emperor. The thoughts of his Imperial Majesty are directed with unceasing solicitude to the scene of the contest in which the allied armies are engaged; it is, therefore, with the utmost satisfaction that he observes the esteem which the soldiers of the two countries mutually entertain for each other increased by the courage and perseverance which they display in the service of one and the same cause. The Government of the Emperor especially congratulates itself at perceiving in the vote of the Parliament an evidence of the intimate union which, connecting together the policy of France and England, blends also in one and the same expression the encomiums to which glorious efforts and toilsome labours so justly entitle the two armies and the two fleets which the two countries have sent to share the same perils and the same fatigues."

FRENCH OPINION OF OUR MILITARY ORGANISATION.

The following extracts are from an article in the *Journal des Débats*, signed John Lemoine:—

"Le Parlement est ajourné au 23 janvier, et le gouvernement anglais est parvenu à faire passer ses deux bills, celui de la milice et celui des troupes étrangères. Malgré cet apparent succès, on peut être sûr que le ministère est sorti très affaibli de la discussion, et très vraisemblablement il ne sera pas en mesure d'affronter la prochaine session. Ce n'est pas qu'après tout il n'ait déployé dans les derniers temps une très grande activité; mais comme il faut que quelqu'un paie pour les fautes commises, c'est lui qui servira de bouc émissaire. Tout le monde est mécontent; plus encore, tout le monde est inquiet, et on s'en prend au gouvernement de tout un système d'incertitude et d'imprévoyance qui appartient à la nation entière.

"Il a fallu, durant le cours de cette discussion, avouer ouvertement des vérités fâcheuses; et le gouvernement, pour se défendre, a été obligé de mettre sous les yeux du public l'état peu brillant de ses propres affaires. On a vu et on a admiré le magnifique et inébranlable courage qu'ont déployé les Anglais dans la campagne de Crimée; ce point est hors de question et il serait oiseux de le discuter. Les Anglais sont donc une nation tout aussi militaire qu'aucune autre; mais ils ne sont pas une nation organisée militairement. Il n'ont ni service obligatoire comme en France, ni celui de la landwehr comme en Allemagne; et ils n'ont, en fait d'armée permanente, que ce qui est nécessaire pour la garnison des colonies et des dépendances, et aussi pour le maintien de la sécurité publique. Tout le monde sait que c'est chez eux un sujet de fierté de n'avoir pas d'armée. Cette antipathie pour la force militaire, cette aversion, pour ce qu'on appelle le pied de guerre, qui ont toujours été naturelles au peuple anglais, n'ont fait que s'accroître encore depuis un demi-siècle, surtout depuis les dernières années, où l'industrie a fait de si gigantesques progrès. La prédominance toujours croissante de l'économie politique a successivement réduit l'établissement militaire du royaume aux proportions les plus restreintes, et c'est une tendance qu'il ne faut attribuer à aucun gouvernement en particulier, car elle a été le fait du pays tout entier. C'est ainsi qu'en l'année, sous l'influence des idées d'industrie, de travail et d'économie, on a de plus en plus réduit le budget de la guerre, de sorte qu'au moment où ont commencé les hostilités, l'Angleterre s'est trouvée prise au dépourvu. Rien n'est plus facile, comme je vous le disais, que de se en prendre à de malheureux ministres, et de crier: "C'est la faute du gouvernement!" Mais la vérité est que c'est la faute de tout le monde. Cette vérité a été la meilleure défense du gouvernement, et il était assez bien fondé à répondre, comme il l'a fait, à ceux qui attaquaient l'insuffisance des ressources militaires du pays, que depuis vingt-cinq ans et plus toutes les Chambres des Communes avaient été occupées à

tailler dans le budget de la guerre, et n'en avaient presque rien laissé.

La situation de l'armée anglaise a été exposée d'une manière encore plus nette et plus catégorique par Lord John Russell. Dans le cours de la session dernière, le Parlement avait voté une augmentation assez considérable de l'armée. Le total existant alors était de 120,000 hommes; le Parlement vota une augmentation de 50,000 hommes, ce qui devait porter le chiffre à 170,000 hommes. A la surprise générale, le gouvernement est venu déclarer la semaine dernière qu'il n'avait pas pu arriver à compléter ce chiffre, et qu'il s'en fallait encore de 20,000 hommes. On a réduit les conditions d'admission, on a élevé les conditions de recrutement, rien n'y a fait, on n'a pas pu compléter l'augmentation. Ceci peut paraître en contradiction avec l'incontestable popularité de la guerre actuelle et avec l'ardeur que manifeste pour elle le peuple anglais. C'est pourtant un fait mathématique, et je laisse ici parler Lord John Russell:—

"Je ne cite point le langage des journaux; je me borne à citer l'autorité du gouvernement anglais lui-même. Je crois que de cet état de choses on peut conclure, non pas qu'il y a du ralentissement dans l'ardeur que la nation anglaise montre pour la guerre actuelle, mais que l'organisation traditionnelle de l'armée anglaise ne pourra pas être longtemps maintenue. De plus larges brèches seront faites par la nécessité à l'ancien exclusivisme aristocratique. Il y a eu bien des choses changées depuis quarante ans; et dans la carrière militaire comme dans toutes les autres, la classe la plus nombreuse posera la célèbre question du commencement de la révolution française, et demandera à être quelque chose."

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

SPAIN.—If the new regulations of this remarkably changeable country are only half, or even only one-tenth part carried into operation, Spain will rival any nation in liberalism. On the 19th inst. M. Lurzuriaga, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, read the programme of the new Cabinet to the Cortes. Its substance is as follows:—

"Sovereign liberty of the Cortes to decree the bases of the constitution; a constitutional throne, with all the powers necessary to and inherent in this institution; royal sanction for the ordinary laws; individual safety, with no other limit save that which is required for the safety of the public; right of petition; religious unity in whatever may have an interior character, without trespassing on the respect due to other forms of belief; strong parliamentary power, in order that the royal power may not be destroyed; organisation of Parliament in both houses; the right of refusing taxes not voted by the Cortes; ministerial responsibility; a national guard; enlightened decentralisation; peace and friendship with all nations, whatever their forms of Government may be; assimilation of the colonies to the Peninsula; general system of railways; civil equality for obtaining public situations; special instruction in the arts and sciences, in order to destroy the mania of getting into public offices; free press, with trial by jury."

Marshal Espartero spoke a few words, and demanded of the chambers a compact majority and a good constitution. He said that if anyone should attempt to make the nation retrograde he would put himself at the head of the national guard and army, in order to protect the laws. The "debates" are going on—bolsterously.

PRUSSIA.—The *Morning Chronicle* correspondent at Berlin, says:—

"Whilst speaking of the Chamber, it may not be irrelevant to give an extract from the statistics of its composition, whereby some light will be thrown upon the independence of its acts and votes:—

Ministers of State and actual Privy Counsellors	6
Ex-Ministers	3
Under-Secretaries of State	1
Government administrative functionaries (paid)	94
Legal and judicial functionaries (paid)	56
Military men (either on full pay or retired)	16
Retired functionaries (pensioned)	12

Total..... 188

That is to say, 188 out of 350 members more or less dependent on Government and Court favour for position or means of existence."

The Berlin *Correspondent* says there is a probability that the enrolment of German troops for foreign countries will be forbidden, seeing that, by Article XVIII. of the Act of the German Federation it is expressly forbidden to German subjects to enter into the military service of foreign states.

THE FOUR POINTS.—The *Cologne Gazette* states that Lord Clarendon and M. Drouin de Lhuys have communicated their interpretation of the four points; and in words nearly identical, to the cabinet of Vienna. The latter accepts the interpretation, and has transmitted it to St. Petersburg. It is also stated that on the 16th the Austrian, French, and English ambassadors waited on M. de Manteuffel to demand the adhesion of Prussia to the treaty of Vienna. M. de Manteuffel inquired whether they

were authorised to communicate the interpretation of the four points, and on their replying in the negative, he said that under such circumstances they could not expect an immediate adhesion.

GREECE AND THE PORTE.—The Porte has just drawn up, in a very precise note, the terms on which it will consent to a resumption of political and commercial relations with Greece.

NAPLES.—A quarrel has lately broken out between the Government and the Jesuits. It appears the latter had been in the habit of teaching that the Pope was superior to all the other sovereigns of the earth, and the former has, for some unexplained reason, quite recently thought proper to regard this not very novel doctrine among Roman Catholics as highly revolutionary in its tendency. The consequence was, that M. Mazza, the director of police, sent for Padre Giuseppe, the chief of the Jesuits, and told him that they must discontinue this practice, and should recollect that in 1848 they were sent out of the country in carriages; "but if these things continue," said the Minister, "the Government will kick you out of the kingdom." "Noi vi cacciamo a calci" were the precise words. The reverend father, much distressed at the result of his interview, hastened back to his convent, and immediately wrote a model of a protest, which, up to the present time, has proved quite ineffectual.

POSTAGE TO FRANCE.—A new postal treaty has been entered into between France and England, the principal effect of which will be the reduction of the postage upon paid letters, weighing not more than 1 oz. (a weight which includes the great majority) to 4d. instead of 6d. or 10d. as heretofore.

ARMAND MARRAST.—We last week inserted a paragraph describing the misfortune of the Emperor of the French to the widow of Armand Marrast. The statement is utterly incorrect—the so-called widow actually died a year before her husband—and the brother, M. Achille Marrast, to whom the paragraph also referred, has held the appointment of Procureur-General at Pau for the last six years, and has certainly not been recently rewarded in the manner indicated.

BAVARIA.—Letters from Darmstadt say that King Louis has had a severe return of his old malady. He appears to have been in great danger, but subsequently his vigorous constitution asserted itself, and he may be considered safe.

ROME.—A financial crisis is the latest fact. The ambiguity of the Government's conduct towards the state bank had left everybody uncertain as to whether the bank paper was obligatory or not; and the squabbles on the exchange have been so great in consequence that it has been found necessary to establish two rates of exchange, there being about two per cent. difference between notes and silver. Meanwhile, the bank's discount operations having been suspended throughout the state, the consternation of mercantile men, who had hoped for a renewal of their bills, is at the utmost. The secret of the whole crisis may be told in a few words. Cardinal Antonelli and his brother (who is the governor of the bank) had fully intended and expected that the silver currency would not have been re-established, and consequently had extended the bank operations enormously, but the Pope's unmovable resolution to extirpate the forced paper currency by the end of the year produced a run on the bank which would have been fatal without the *Deus in interitus* mediation of the Secretary of State.

HOLLAND.—A correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from Utrecht, censures the servile members of the States General, who appear resolved to turn their ministry into a despotism. "It is sufficient, to ensure the defeat of any measure, however much called for, and however salutary, if it be introduced by the free-trade or opposition party in the chambers. Positive servility to the ministry dragged into office by the power of offended Protestantism, seems to be the rule in the States General—a rule confirmed by a few distinguished exceptions. Thorbecke, the ex-Premier, proposed to take off the oppressive duty on the necessities of life—bread and meat; and an Utrecht university professor, of European reputation, but known to be hostile in feeling to the chief of the free-trade party, wrote a pamphlet to show that stock-fish and potatoes are a more nutritious food for the people than bread and meat; that the latter were but luxuries, and as such ought to be taxed; nay, that they were—the Professor is an inveterate smoker—by no means so necessary an article as tobacco, which therefore ought to remain untaxed. The measure was accordingly, thanks to the Utrecht professor's theory—for numbers pretended to believe it, and to consider its scientific reasoning truly worthy of the professorial genius—and to the opposition of the Government, lost; and ministers recommended the people to fast on stock-fish, potatoes, and—smoke!"

THE POLES AND THE WAR.—A letter from Warsaw contradicts the statement that the reserve battalion of Grenadiers has been called out. Prince Paskiewitch is still there. Respecting the alleged apathy of the Poles, the writer says:—"No one would believe with what force of character the Poles keep to themselves their feelings, particularly

towards France, their second country. Although they do not build any exaggerated hopes on the results of this struggle, they accompany with their most ardent wishes the efforts of the West to put a curb on the encroachments of Russian policy. In the families of the high aristocracy there is an apparent good understanding with the Russian authorities; but, nevertheless, their wishes go with the cause of justice defended by the West."

AUSTRALIA.

THE *Cresus*, arrived this week from Sydney, brings some very interesting news, dated September 1st. For the intelligence which we are enabled to give, we are mainly indebted to the careful correspondent of the *Times*.

The colonies appear to concern themselves with European news more than with their own matters.

"The European conflict is watched with intense anxiety, and public feeling in the colonies is thoroughly with England in the struggle. Following the example of the mother country, a day has been set apart in all the provinces for public prayer and humiliation; in New South Wales it was the 18th of August, in Victoria the 14th. In the capitals and in the towns of the interior the day was strictly kept by all the various religious communities. Collections were made at the churches and chapels for the benefit of the wives and children of the soldiers and sailors engaged in the war. In Sydney 2,000*l.* was thus raised, and the contribution from the whole province will probably be twice that amount."

A very singular fact has been ascertained. The colonies, like elder sons, and younger sons when they can, are spending considerable more than the "father of the family." The cost of government, it seems, is more in proportion per head than in Great Britain. The following paragraph from the *Sydney Empire* gives statistics, and we must bear in mind that New South Wales has neither fleets, armies, nor national debts.

"In the year 1853 we estimated our Government expenses at 579,080*l.*, and we saved out of that sum 117,085*l.*, leaving our actual expenditure 461,995*l.* For 1854 we estimated our expenditure at 590,135*l.*; and we have now added to that sum, by way of supplementary estimate, 185,059*l.*, making an actual outlay for 1854 of 775,194*l.*; thus in one year the expenses of the Government have been nearly doubled. For the year 1853 the estimate now submitted is 766,480*l.*; and this, it must be remembered, is for a population of 231,800 souls, prosperous, rich, and contented."

Sir Charles Hotham, the new Governor of Victoria, is actively engaged in his duties. He disapproves of the great expenses, and in a speech which he made at Geelong, he reproved the people for their reckless extravagance. The officials, who have been shamefully negligent of their work, no matter in what department, became rather alarmed at Sir Charles's demonstrations of reform. He is determined to check reckless expenditure, and has appointed Commissioners to inquire into the cause of the debt which has fallen on the "Golden Colony." Referring to the speech, the *Times* correspondent says:—

"At the same time, Sir Charles declares that he neither intends to put a stop to all public works, nor to reject the aid of the money market, if necessary, in carrying them out. All he had done hitherto was, he said, 'to have a look at the books,' as he was determined to 'master the financial state of the colony.' After that, though he did not think it right to incur debts for political purposes, or the expenses of Government, yet for the construction of great national works, it might be wise and just to borrow money when, by the increase of the revenue and population, the extinction of the debt could be effected within a given time. . . . In a colony scarcely twenty years old works were proposed for which other countries have been compelled to wait centuries, even with a more compact and settled state of society. There was also an evident tendency to prefer works of splendour to works of utility, and the means that would have paved and lighted the city were crippled by drawing on them for palaces. With the representative system not yet out of the shell, and with no possibility of calculating what it may be or require twenty years hence, magnificent Houses of Parliament have been undertaken for the handful of members to be elected by little more than a quarter of a million of people. The first check to this career of unreason was given by the rather sudden apparition of 'a debt'; but, as some public works are absolutely essential to the well-being of the community, discretion will be required to decide which may be suspended, and which carried on. This discretion Sir Charles Hotham appears well disposed to exercise."

Sir Charles made some apt remarks on the principles of government, and his position with regard to them. He said he stood between two systems of government—the present, and that which would arise under the new constitution which had brought into operation. That constitution they had adopted with the principle from which it sprang—that all power proceeded from the people; and on that principle he intended to conduct his administration. He added:—

"The first element of that principle is publicity. I intend no reflexion by what I am now going to say. I simply feel bound to state my firm conviction that in the present day a Government cannot be conducted with satisfaction to the people without the fullest and freest communication with the people. It is on this principle that the new constitution is based; and if you did not intend to adopt that principle fairly and fully you had no right to found your constitution upon it."

THE DIGGINGS.—The notion that the colonies are paved with gold appears to be as apocryphal as the provincial idea of London streets:—

"It is impossible to impart any interest to the accounts from the older gold-fields; the details are of the baldest kind, and stamped with a wearying tameness. A few general indications of the social state of the mining population may, however, be gathered from them. That it is uneasy may be inferred from the frequent changes and shifts from place to place on the slightest rumours of individual success. To the multitudes who cannot afford to wait the result of sinking deep shafts it is an absolute necessity to obtain quicker and easier returns, and they may be described as perpetually in search of good 'surface' diggings, and numberless are the creeks and gullies that have been tried, abandoned, and tried again, especially in the neighbourhood of Bendigo. At times the abandonment of that old field seemed pending, and the storekeepers and hotel proprietors began to fear a complete exodus; but, as yet, the original locality has not lost its power of attraction. Most of the 'rushes' are from point to point in the vicinity of the first discovered fields, on which towns, the future capitals of the gold districts, are rapidly rising. From these, as from centres, the country will be in course of time explored; but in what direction, or at what distance from the first and richest workings the next great discovery will be made is left to chance. The zeal for 'prospecting' is very faint when it cannot raise a subscription of 500*l.* There are other indications that the gold-digging population is not in the mass prosperous; the complaints of poverty and destitution are frequent, crimes against property are on the increase, and—a still darker feature—so are cases of insanity. There is no regular occupation in the colony that does not pay better than gold-digging—a fact which most of the skilled workmen of the towns have long since discovered; they willingly leave the pursuit to new comers."

SOME FACTS FROM MELBOURNE.—Colonies usually acquire strength and stability from the boldness with which they throw over the conventionalities of the mother country. Melbourne, according to the *Daily News*, attaches itself to the least favourable institutions:

"Nothing can more forcibly show the depressed state of business at Melbourne than the fact that in fourteen days, writs for actions for trial in the Supreme Court were issued for debts amounting to no less than 78,000*l.* A discovery of spurious warrants to a large extent has been made public, consequent on the failure of the house of Davidson and Gordon. It appears that with these warrants they obtained 100,000*l.* from Messrs. Overend and Gurney, and 40,000*l.* from the London Joint Stock Bank. When they went to examine the goods, they were not in bond, and, it turns out, never had been there."

VALUE OF LAND IN MELBOURNE.—The price of town land is almost beyond credit. There is no limit to the extravagant opinion that buyers and sellers entertain of its value. Innumerable instances might be quoted. In one case a house purchased for 250*l.* lately fetched 12,000*l.* Another, offered to Government for the use of the military officers for 3000*l.*, a month after was valued at 5000*l.* They still hesitated, and the price gradually rose to 6000*l.*, which sum Government declined giving, having about that time received iron barracks. As another instance, Government have long desired Degraeve's fine blue-stone store, and have made many liberal overtures, but without tempting the proprietor to sell. They at last asked him to name a price—a final figure—in order that they might settle the affair one way or another. He meditated awhile, and then as his ultimatum, named 85,000*l.*

AMERICAN VIEW OF THE CHINESE REVOLUTION.

A WRITER in the *New York Herald* looks at this subject from a most ultra go-ahead point of view. The probabilities of the next few centuries are canvassed with even more ease than that with which the last few centuries are reviewed:—

"The patriarchal barbaric system of China, which claims a history of thousands of years behind the Egyptian Pyramids, is assailed by the modern principles of 'manifest destiny,' and must go down. Something of 'the progressive spirit of the age,' something of civilisation and Christianity, must supersede it. Whether it shall be in the form of an independent Christian empire or republic, or in the shape of a Russian province, or another British East India protectorate, it is for time to determine. The ancient Chinese system is undermined, and must fall to the ground."

"The present policy of the British, French, and Ame-

rican diplomats and consuls in China appears to be strictly limited to a sort of allied armed neutrality against imperialists and rebels for the protection of trade. Our late Minister, Mr. Humphrey Marshall, exhibited a decided leaning to the existing imperial dynasty on the ground that the success of the rebels would result in reducing the country to a condition of anarchy, from the evils of which it could only be rescued through the humane interposition of the East India colonial policy of England. In this view, Mr. Marshall argued that the interests of the United States in China and on the Pacific Ocean would be better subserved by sympathising with the legitimate reigning Emperor than with the savage and bloody rebels, whose leader modestly assumes to be nothing more than a younger brother of Jesus Christ, appealing to arms for the extirpation of Paganism and the substitution of the benign dispensation of the New Testament.

"Russia has not been idle. Within the last year she has appropriated and annexed the Northern Manchou provinces, nearly equal in extent to the area of the United States east of the Mississippi, and watered by the river Saghalien, scarcely second in length and volume to our great 'Father of Waters' himself. Russia has done this, and has thus secured a military and naval position on the eastern coast of the Pacific, which will ultimately enable her to hold her own against even England on that side of the world."

"Should China be reduced to the hopeless confusion of internal anarchy, what will be the policy of England and France? A joint protectorate? The experiment was tried in the East Indies, but the Frenchmen were expelled, and England assumed the monopoly there. Can they agree to divide the Chinese empire between them? They would probably fall out upon the boundary, and come to blows for the whole or none. The ultimate fate of China may hang upon the present war with Russia."

"Let Russia hold out, and fatigue the allies into an ignominious peace, and the results may be widely different in Europe, America, and Asia. The rebels may capture and destroy Canton, Nankia, and Peking; but the war will still go on in the vast interior, between the old religion and the new Christian dispensation of the revolutionary leaders, until a third power steps in and appropriates the spoils. A settlement with Russia, on the other hand, must be followed by an adjustment of the 'balance of power' in America, with the pacification of China upon some commercial basis, in which the contest must be between England, Russia, and the United States for commercial supremacy."

"We could not—we never could—conveniently annex China, even upon the unanimous application of her people. Our interests in that quarter depend upon the independence of the empire, and a commercial footing with it equal, at least, to that of the most favoured nations." We could not very conveniently intervene by force of arms to enforce the doctrine of non-intervention in China; but we may, in the mean time, by active and sagacious diplomacy, do much to prevent the absorption of the Chinese territories into the British East India colonies; while England will, no doubt, see to it that the Central Flowery Kingdom is not absorbed by Russia."

A FETTERED PRESS.

THE Paris newspapers are at present indulged with rather more liberty than has been recently accorded. But the position is most awkward, and it would be far more merciful to say, "Thus far shalt thou go." The *Times* correspondent in Paris says:

"I mentioned the other day that it was intimated to the editors of the public journals, on the part of the Government, that they were at liberty to use language, when alluding to the war, of a more vigorous and exciting kind than previously. The Ministerial journals have, with more or less effect, and to a certain degree, availed themselves of the permission. But it is not enough for the press to receive thus measured out, as it were inch by inch, the liberty of speech; and from the permission granted to them I scarcely anticipate any very great result, because the press does not feel itself, even with this, entirely free from danger. How, for instance, can a writer, who is expected to rouse or add new heat to the enthusiasm of the people, feel himself at ease when he knows, that for a hasty expression or word which may slip from his pen in his patriotic ardour, his journal may receive an *avertissement*, or, if it has already received one, may be suspended or suppressed? He must still write with the image of some despotic prefect, or other over-zealous functionary, who cherishes the proper official mistrust of journalism, ever frowning in the distance. When the offences of the press are not defined, but are left to the judgment of some self-sufficient and ignorant official, who has the will and the means to annoy, how can it be expected that a writer will sit down and compose an appeal which is intended to rouse, as with the voice of the trumpet, the patriotic enthusiasm of the masses? As well command a man to dance the Spanish *bolero*, the Highland fling, or an Irish jig, whose limbs you have previously bound in fetters."

ARMING THE PEOPLE.

ZETA, who writes the following letter to the *Daily News*, has evidently been studying the *Leader* and looking up the Bill of Rights:—

"Permit me, through the medium of your columns, to put another vital question to the nation, now that the Foreigners Enlistment Bill is happily settled. There is an act, by no means in abeyance, but put in force a few years ago, that prohibits the drilling or training of any number of Englishmen to the use of arms. This infamous act was passed, I believe, during Lord Sidmouth's administration. Is it not contrary to the Bill of Rights? Be that as it may, it has caused Englishmen to degenerate, and has given birth to that morbid exorcism called the Peace Society. Our forefathers could all bend the bow, wield the broadsword, and flourish the quarterstaff, but now, our unwarlike youth can at most let off a squib or a cracker on the 5th of November. This shameful act was a deeper blow to the liberties and rights of Englishmen than even a suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act has been. See the fruits of it. The Government, in its direst need, can only get boys, tender boys of 18, and the sturdy manhood of England does not step forward! Our men of 25 and upwards can handle the distaff, but know nothing of sword, lance, and gun! Shame on our legislators! And deep is the disgrace they themselves have occasioned, not to the measure lately passed, which in itself was just and good because necessary, but to their own legislation, that has ever since the act I allude to emasculated the country."

THE NEW BEER BILL.

HOW SINGLE MEN EAT THEIR CHRISTMAS DINNERS. "A SINGLE MAN" writing to the *Times* has given the crowning argument against the new Beer Bill—an argument which will touch something besides the heart of Englishmen. He describes himself, owing to "social wants," as having no establishment, nor friends possessing them; consequently the coffee-house or tavern bore the sacred character of HOME:—

"Before the passing of Mr. Wilson Patten's Act Sunday was to me a season of spiritual and mental, as well as physical refreshment, renewing my energies for another six days' labour—in fact, in the true sense of the word, a Sabbath. Monday was the commencement of that most joyful season of the year, Christmas. In common with my fellow-Christians, I attended church to offer up my humble praises for that great event connected with the world's salvation—the incarnation of the Redeemer, and the ushering in of that dispensation which was to supersede that pharisaical Judaism which laid burdens upon men grievous to be borne—the dispensation of 'Peace on earth and good-will to men.' I subsequently dined, where I have been accustomed to dine for years, at the coffee-room of a highly-respectable tavern. The party at my dinner-table formed an intellectual, social circle of single gentlemen; but no sooner was dinner swallowed than the law compelled us to turn out into the streets. We were denied the privilege, possessed by every respectable family upon that festival of the Church, of taking a glass of wine together. We had no choice but that of going to church, patrolling the streets upon a miserably wet day, or going to our cheerless bedrooms. At ten o'clock again we had the alternative of walking the streets or going to bed."

THE CAB-OCRACY AND THE PARKS.

THE question of the unnecessary closing of the aristocratic roads to the riders in cabs has been again laid before the public by a *Times* correspondent:—

"Now that by order of the First Commissioner of Works a handsome and convenient entrance is made at Buckingham-gate, affording facile egress and ingress to any number of vehicles, and the road at present carried alongside the outer wall of the Palace is still further to be diverted from it for the future, it would be a great boon and a 'princely concession' to the public if the large towns (for they amount to that) of Belgrave and Westminster were rendered accessible to the public by means of cabs. At present, by a sort of tacit permission, cabs may be driven along this most august of roadways after eight at night, and in the daytime the rich in carriages and broughams fluster through by right. But to all men of business or of pleasure, possessed of moderate fortune, with no private carriage, pressed for time, and anxious to save one mile in two in their journey from Belgrave to St. James's, this easy means of doing so is strictly denied them."

This is followed up very promptly by "A Teacher," who shows that morals are less appreciated in the neighbourhood than money:—

"My occupation—day teaching—compels me to go into the neighbourhood of Pall-mall daily, and daily I am compelled to lose my time, which is to me very valuable, and to pay 1s. instead of 6d. cab hire, because I may not drive across St. James's Park."

"Yet a lady who lives near me, and of whom fame speaks uncharitably, drives through whenever she pleases, in a very shabby brougham which a wicked old officer keeps for her."

NEW ACTS IN FORCE.

FOREIGNERS ENLISTMENT ACT.—On Tuesday the new act, "to permit foreigners to be enlisted and to serve as officers and soldiers in her Majesty's forces," was issued. There are only six clauses in the act. It provides that foreigners may be enlisted and commissions granted; they are to be formed into separate corps. Men serving under this act are not to be employed in the United Kingdom, except for being trained, &c., for foreign service. Such men are not to be billeted, "and there shall not be within the United Kingdom more in the whole than 10,000 men serving under this act at one time." There is to be an attestation on enlistment, and an oath taken of fidelity. The Mutiny Act and articles of war are to apply to foreigners serving under this act. Officers when reduced are not to be entitled to half-pay, but her Majesty may make provision for such as are wounded, &c. The act is to continue in force during the present war, and until one year after the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace.

MILITIA ACT.—On Tuesday, the new Militia Act, which received the royal assent on Saturday, was printed. There are sixteen clauses in the law. Her Majesty is empowered to accept voluntary offers of the militia to serve out of the United Kingdom. Bounties are to be allowed to persons making voluntary offers. The commanding officers are to explain the offer to be voluntary. The services of three field-officers may be accepted with 900 men; two field-officers with 600 men, and one with 300, and of other officers in proportion to the establishment of a regiment. Power is given to her Majesty to form the militia for extended service into provisional regiments or battalions, and to appoint field-officers to such provisional regiments. In case sufficient officers should not volunteer her Majesty may appoint other officers. The militia on extended service is to be subject to the Mutiny Act. Subalterns after five years may be captains without qualifications. Notices of the militia sent by the post to be deemed good notices.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE REDUCTION IN THE TEA DUTY.

THE City article of the *Times* contains the following congratulation on this matter:—

"The statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that he intends to postpone the reductions of the tea duty, fixed to take place in 1855 and 1856, has given much satisfaction, inasmuch as, without increasing any burden at present sustained, it will materially affect the amount otherwise to be provided for at those periods. The existing duty is 1s. 6d. per pound, and it was to have been lowered on the 5th of April next to 1s. 3d., and on the 5th of April, 1856, to 1s., at which it was permanently to remain. The loss to the revenue by each of these intended changes, supposing it not to have been counteracted by an increased consumption, would probably have been about 700,000*l.*, or a million and a-half sterling together, and to this extent, therefore, the ways and means for the future may be considered to be increased by the determination arrived at. It is also to be remarked that all the recent arrivals from China tend to show that the immediate supply, owing to the position of the insurgents round Canton, is becoming more difficult, and that there is consequently reason to believe that the people of England will not be deprived of any certain benefit, since, in the present state of affairs, any new stimulus to consumption would most likely be followed by a more than corresponding increase of price."

PROTESTANT FIRMNESS.

THE Protestant Dean of Kilmacdough (Galway) has been highly offended because, at a recent Patriotic Fund meeting, the chairman (Mr. W. H. Gregory) gave precedence to the Roman Catholic Bishop in the district. He has written a severe letter to Mr. Gregory, who replies at length. The following is an extract:—

"I am sorry to commence my 'justification' by informing you that 'your rank and station' are imaginative; they do not exist; and, as you appeal to rules and practice of precedence, I refer you to the table of Irish precedents, in which you will perceive that as Dean you are not recognised, but, as being Doctor of Divinity, you can, if you please, take your position next to Doctor of Medicine."

Mr. Gregory argues the question of precedence at great length, and then refers to the Dean's conduct at the meeting:—

"I was in hopes that neighbours of all persuasions had met that day on neutral ground, and I begged of you to propose the second resolution. Your reply was a request to see who proposed the first, and, on reading the Roman Catholic Bishop's name attached to it, you said, in a voice audible to all the bystanders (some of whom were Roman Catholics), 'that there was no such person,' and you refused to take part in our proceedings. I then thought your conduct originated in mistaken conscientiousness—your letter shows it to have been from mistaken self-conceit."

INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE REFORMS.

THE question of the Indian Civil Service has been considered by the Commissioners appointed for that purpose. They have issued a report, of which, omitting some preliminary matter, and some arguments not necessary for understanding the purport of the plan, we present, in a condensed form, the essentials of the propositions.

The report is signed "T. B. Macaulay," "Ashburton," "H. Melvill," "B. Jowett," and "J. G. S. Lefevre." The report appears to be from Mr. Macaulay's pen.

It is suggested, in the first place, that the limit of age of candidates and nominees shall be extended.

"The present rule is that no person can be admitted under 17, and that no person can go out to India after 23. Every student must pass four terms—that is to say, two years at the college; consequently, none can be admitted after 21. It seems to us that it would be a great improvement to allow students to be admitted to the college up to the age of 23, and to fix 25 as the latest age at which they can go out to India in the Civil Service. We propose to fix 18 as the lowest age at which a candidate can be admitted into the college."

The subjects for examination are next stated. They include Sanscrit and Arabic, themes for English composition, and English history, and English literature generally. The report goes on to say:—

"In the two great ancient languages there ought to be an examination not less severe than those examinations by which the highest classical distinctions are awarded at Oxford and Cambridge. At least three passages from Latin writers ought to be set, to be translated into English. Subjects should be proposed for original composition, both in Latin verse and in Latin prose; and passages of English verse and prose should be set, to be turned into Latin. At least six passages from Greek writers should be set, to be translated into English. We think that three of the modern languages of the Continent, the French, the Italian, and the German, ought to be among the subjects of examination; and papers of questions should be framed which would enable a candidate to show his knowledge of the civil and literary history of France, Italy, and Germany. The examination in pure and mixed mathematics ought to be of such a nature as to enable the judges to place in proper order all the candidates, from those who have never gone beyond Euclid's Elements and the first part of algebra up to those who possess the highest acquirements."

The natural sciences (chemistry, geology, mineralogy, botany, and zoology) should also have one paper of questions devoted to them. Moral sciences are also to be included. "The subjects which fall under this head," says the report, "are the elements of moral and political philosophy, the history of the ancient and modern schools of moral and political philosophy, the science of logic, and the inductive method, of which the *Novum Organum* is the great text book. The object of the examiners should be rather to put to the test the candidate's powers of mind than to ascertain the extent of his metaphysical reading."

The manner of the examination is next laid down:

"The whole examination ought, we think, to be carried on by means of written papers. The candidates ought not to be allowed the help of any book; nor ought they after once a subject for composition has been proposed to them, or a paper of questions placed before them, to leave the place of examination till they have finished their work. It will be necessary that a certain number of marks should be assigned to each subject, and that the place of a candidate should be determined by the sum total of the marks which he has gained. We have, with the anxious desire to deal fairly by all parts of the United Kingdom, and by all places of liberal education, framed the following scale, which we venture to submit for your consideration:

English language and literature:

Composition	500
History	500
General literature	500
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Greek	1500
Latin	750
French	375
German	375
Italian	375
Mathematics, pure and mixed	1000
Natural sciences	500
Moral sciences	500
Sanscrit	375
Arabic	375
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6875			

"It seems to us probable that of the 6875 marks, which are the *maximum*, no candidate will ever obtain half. A candidate who is at once a distinguished classical scholar and a distinguished mathematician will be, as he ought to be, certain of success. A classical scholar who is no mathematician, or a mathematician who is no classical scholar, will be certain of success if he will read in the history and literature of his own country. A young man who has scarcely any knowledge of ma-

thematics, little Latin, and no Greek, may pass such an examination in English, French, Italian, German, geology, and chemistry, that he may stand at the head of the list."

Whether the examinations are to be yearly or half-yearly is left undecided. When the candidate succeeds he will then be, not a civil servant, but a "civil servant elect," or probationer, and will have to enter into a new course of study:—

"He should, in the first place, make himself well acquainted with the history of India in the largest sense of the word 'history.' He should study that history, not merely in the words of Orme, Wilks, and of Mill, but also in the travels of Bernier, in the notes of Sir William Jones, and in the journals of Heber. He should be well informed about the geography of the country, about its natural productions, about its manufactures, about the physical and moral qualities of the different races which inhabit it, and about the doctrines and rites of those religions which have so powerful an influence on the population. He should trace with peculiar care the progress of the British power. He should understand the constitution of our Government, and the nature of the relations between that Government and its vassals, Mussulman, Maharratta, and Rajpoot. He should consult the most important Parliamentary reports and debates on Indian affairs. All this may be done with very much greater facility in England than in any part of India, except at the three seats of Government, if, indeed, the three seats of Government ought to be excepted."

It is subsequently recommended that every probationer should make himself acquainted with the general principles of jurisprudence, with financial and commercial science, and, as far as possible, with the vernacular languages of India. The subject of language is considered with reference to the Presidency to which the probationer may be sent. The arrangements for the second or final examinations are then laid down:—

"The time of probation ought not, we think, to be less than one year, nor more than two years. There should be periodical examinations, at which a probationer of a year's standing may pass, if he can, and at which every probationer of two years' standing must pass, on pain of forfeiting his appointment. This examination should, of course, be in the four branches of knowledge already mentioned as those to which the attention of the probationers ought to be specially directed. Marks should be assigned to the different subjects, as at the first examination, and it seems to us reasonable that an equal annual number of marks should be assigned to all the four subjects, on the supposition that each probationer is examined in only one of the vernacular languages of India. Sometimes, however, as we have said, a probationer may study more than one of these vernacular languages of India among which he is at liberty to make his choice, or may, in addition to one or more of the vernacular languages of India, learn Sanscrit or Arabic. We think it reasonable that for examination in which he offers himself for examination an equal number of marks should be assigned. When the marks have been cast up, the probationers who have been examined should be arranged in order of merit. All those who have been two years probationers, and who have, in the opinion of the examiners, used their time well, and made a respectable proficiency, should be declared civil servants of the company. Every probationer who, having been a probationer only one year, has obtained a higher place than some of the two-year men who have passed, should also be declared a civil servant of the company. All the civil servants who pass in one year should take rank in the service according to their places in the final examination."

It is also recommended that, in the event of the term of age being extended, the students at Haileybury should be allowed liberties analogous to those of a college, instead of, as at present, those of a school.

THE NEW DANISH PARLIAMENT.

THE new Parliament has been opened, and some little variety in incidents appears probable. The new Ministry announced their intention of dealing with the old question of the settlement of the Danish monarchy, which has been so long under discussion:—

"Ministers conceive it to be a matter of most pressing urgency to bring this question to an end with the least possible loss of time, to calm the public mind, and remove any doubts that may exist of their patriotism or the honesty of their intentions. In doing so they will be simply fulfilling strictly to the letter the instructions contained in the royal decree of the 28th of January, 1862, for the legal development and improvement of the constitutional element for the whole extent of the Danish monarchy, and carrying out the objects therein mentioned and set forth, viz., the perfect union of the different parts of the kingdom into one organised whole, to be kept together and strengthened by one joint constitution."

This announcement was received with great acclamations. Former proposals for impeaching the late Ministry for issuing unconstitutional edicts, &c., will probably be again discussed.

HOPE vs. AGUADO.

IN the Queen's Bench a case has been partially heard, and postponed on account of the illness of the Attorney-General (who appeared for the defendant) to the 12th February. It is an ordinary case of *crimen coeli*, which, however, exhibits some unusual circumstances. Mr. and Mrs. Hope had been living together in the most affectionate and exemplary manner, and were, moreover, the parents of eight children. Sir F. Thesiger conducted the case for the plaintiff. He commenced by deprecating such legal proceedings, but he declared that the law left the injured party no alternative.

The plaintiff, Mr. Adrian Hope, was the second son of the late Mr. Hope, the eminent banker, and better known as the author of "Anastasis." Mrs. Hope, the unhappy subject of this inquiry, was the only child of General Count Ropp, who, as the jury probably well remembered, was aide-de-camp to Napoleon I., Emperor of the French. The parties were married by special license on the 21st July, 1836, in the house of Mr. Hope's eldest brother, in Duchesse-street, Portland-place. Mr. Hope was at that time twenty-five years of age, and Mrs. Hope nineteen. There had been eight children born after the marriage, but only five survived—three daughters and two sons. The eldest daughter was born in 1837, and the youngest son and child in the month of May, 1847—a date which the jury would find to be significant in the course of this inquiry. After the marriage, they lived in Carlton-terrace, and occasionally on the Continent. Mr. Hope had a great farm in Holland which rendered his presence there occasionally necessary. The utmost happiness existed until nearly the period mentioned above, and it could be proved, not from the evidence of friends before whom family differences were always hidden, but from the evidence of servants from whom nothing could be long concealed, and also from letters, which were unfeignedly true. He would merely read two of these. The first was a letter from Mrs. Hope to her husband, and was dated seven years after their marriage. It was dated July 21, 1843, and was in these terms:—

"My dearest Love, — To-day is seven years since we belonged to each other, and I cannot let it pass without writing to you. Let us hope we may pass many more as happily and united as we have passed these seven years. The child is well again, but as cross as two sticks. — Yours most affectionately, "M. H."

Another letter was dated November 29, 1844:— "My dearest Adrian, — I turn round my head to look at the clock. I dare say you are at Carlton Gardens. I hope to God you are comfortable, and near a nice fire, and much tired. My dear husband, how I wish you were with me. There is not a day I don't wish to join you. The only fear I have is, if I do get with you, that, having me so near you, you will keep long in England. I want you to come back to our poor chicks. You will do your utmost to come back as soon as possible. The children love you, and I cherish you and press you to my heart with all the strength of affection and peace. God bless and protect you, and may He soon bring you back to me safe and well. — Ever yours most affectionately, "M. H."

Mr. Hope took up his residence in the Quai d'Orsay, in Paris, in the year 1846. It was in the beginning of that year that the family first became acquainted with the defendant, the Count Aguado, who, he understood, was a son of the Marquis Aguado, who was formerly a banker in Spain. Count Aguado was then residing with his family in the Place Vendôme. From the evidence which he would lay before the jury, he thought they would entertain no doubt at all that from an early period after Count Aguado's acquaintance with Mr. and Mrs. Hope, too close an intimacy grew up between the count and Mrs. Hope—first so early as the year 1846 a criminal intercourse had taken place between them. The discovery of that fatal state of things was made almost accidentally. In the year 1853, in consequence of differences which had arisen between Mr. and Mrs. Hope, he separated from her, and brought to England three daughters, leaving the other children (two boys) with Mrs. Hope. A question arose before the tribunal of this country and of France with regard to the custody of those children. Mr. Hope, of course, resorted to professional advice, and was desirous of showing that Mrs. Hope was not a fit person to be the guardian of these boys. In the course of the inquiries necessarily made, the whole matter was exposed, and the connivance of various servants was ascertained. In the month of August, 1846, Mrs. Hope expressed a wish to take to the Hague her son, who, he believed, was then suffering from a scrupulous affection. Mr. Hope gave her permission to go, and she arrived at the Frascati Hotel, at the Hague, in the same month. The Aguado family and the defendant, Count Aguado, were at the Frascati Hotel at that time. Whether Mrs. Hope was aware of that fact or not before she went to the Hague, the jury would possibly be able to judge after they had heard the evidence which would be produced. But be that as it might, she found the Count Aguado there. Various familiarities were undeniable, and there was one instance which was spoken to by one witness, which was conclusive upon the subject. It appeared that there was a ball at the Frascati Hotel, and after that ball one of the

servants, who was going up-stairs to her room, observed Count Aguado enter Mrs. Hope's bedroom. That was at two o'clock in the morning. The servant watched for some time to see whether he would come out again; and whilst she was watching, fatigued, she fell asleep, and remained asleep until four o'clock. She then retired, and at seven o'clock in the morning, as she was going round to the different rooms for the purpose of taking away the boots and shoes to be cleaned, she observed the Count Aguado go undressed from Mrs. Hope's bedroom to his own bedroom. She observed that the door of Mrs. Hope's bedroom was ajar; she entered, and observed the count's slippers by the bed. Subsequently, in Paris, Mr. and Mrs. Hope had separate bedrooms, and an incident occurred at that time which would be spoken to by a witness, who would depose that, one day in the month of October, 1846, Mrs. Hope, about noon, requested Mr. Hope to go and take a walk. Mrs. Hope was then in bed. She also told the nurse to take the children out for a walk, and the witness to go down to her luncheon. But, rather surprised at these various preparations, she did not go down stairs, but went into a room adjoining Mrs. Hope's bedroom. In a very short time after Mr. Hope was gone, and the nurse had taken the children out, Count Aguado came into the house, went into Mrs. Hope's bedroom, and was there nearly an hour. In May, 1847, just nine months after Mrs. Hope's visit to the Hague, the youngest child was born, and he (Sir F. Thesiger) thought the jury would have very little doubt in their minds that at all events the Count Aguado believed himself to be the father of that child, and Mr. Hope had this distressing pain to endure, that, in addition to the injury which he had received from Count Aguado, the seed of an adulterer was mixed with his own legitimate offspring.

The particulars up to 1850 are of a similar character. In that year they were both at Havre, and on one occasion the count had gone to the hotel, and was told by the servant that Mrs. Hope had gone to bathe, and had desired that he should follow her. The servant, prompted by curiosity, watched the count to the beach, and there he observed the count, having undressed himself in his own tent, join Mrs. Hope; they both swam out together, and when they returned, and got into shallow water, they walked on hand-in-hand together—and then the count having politely handed Mrs. Hope into her tent, passed on to his own. Incidents of the same nature occurred up to the period of the separation, when Mrs. Hope removed to the Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré, where the count was frequently and openly seen, being perhaps no longer deterred by the presence of the husband. Sir Frederic said he had now come to the close of this distressing case. He had told them that he desired to discharge this part of his duty by merely opening, simply and plainly, the facts of the case, and he would keep his word.

Various witnesses were then examined, and also on a subsequent day, but cross-examination did not materially affect the evidence. The trial was, by consent of both parties, adjourned to the 12th of February.

AMERICA.

LETTERS received this week give curious accounts. It appears that during the last twelve months nearly 30,000 British subjects who had emigrated to the United States have returned to their native land, to the relief of the country which was overstocked with labourers. Wages were falling, and "necessaries" were at famine prices.

The news from Mexico represents that country as the prey of faction and internal strife. The despotism of Santa Anna is relaxed nowhere, and tolerated in appearance only in the capital. Constant engagements are taking place between the troops of the dictator and the insurgents of the provinces. On the whole, it is believed that Santa Anna is gradually losing ground, and that when the money which he received from the United States, by the terms of the Gadsden treaty, is exhausted, and his sinews of war give way, he will be obliged once more to fly from the country and give place to a new order of things.

Although this state of affairs is not encouraging, the example of Santa Anna has been followed by General Carrera in Guatemala. He has taken the refusal into his hands, and has been proclaimed perpetual President. His object is doubtless what it is alleged to be—the subjugation of all the states of Central America to his control. Santa Anna is known to favour his movements, and perhaps no serious resistance will be offered to his progress for some time to come. Carrera is an Indian, and twenty years ago was utterly illiterate. He rose into importance during the desolating war of 1837.

The Mormons of Utah will probably give some trouble. Brigham Young's term as governor has expired, and he is now *functus officio*, though no one is yet appointed in his place. He rules, however, without authority from or responsibility to the Government at Washington. When the question comes up for appointing his successor there will probably be something said in Congress about the Mormons, and

a disposition shown to do away with this *imperium in imperio*, if possible. One plan suggested is to appoint a military governor, with a few Government troops placed at his disposal at Salt Lake, who shall rule over this turbulent people as a sort of proconsul. And it is also suggested that the introduction of troops, besides giving the governor a physical support, will have a good moral effect upon the women, by making them dissatisfied with a one-twentieth part of a man. If the plan should be carried out, and should be successful, farewell to the Prophet Joseph. Take away polygamy and the attraction of Mormonism ceases.

TRANSATLANTIC MAILS.—The Postmaster-General's report recommends reducing the compensation paid to the Collins' steamers for carrying the mails between New York and Liverpool. Under the present arrangement 858,000 dols. a year is paid for a mail once a fortnight each way. This the Postmaster thinks too much. He also complains of the non-execution by the British Government of the 12th article of the Postal Convention of December, 1848, with the United States. The mails between France and the United States were expressly excluded from the operation of that convention, and the contracting parties undertook to invite France to enter into communication with them for the purpose of making an arrangement conducive to the interests of the three countries. Such an invitation has never been extended, because the parties could not agree upon the terms, and consequently the Postmaster finds that the United States Post-office is made to suffer by the high transit rate in England, and by the difference of 3d. in favour of the English sea carriage. He does not, however, recommend the only remedy in his power—the abrogation of the convention of 1848. The revenue of the office amounted last year to 6,955,586 dols., and its expenditure to 8,577,424 dols.; leaving a deficiency of 1,621,837 dols. to be provided for by the General Treasury. The amount paid for ocean steam mail service was 2,023,010 dols., of which 794,177 dols. was for the Californian mails.

AMERICAN STATISTICS.

It is customary for the various Public Departments of the United States to present to Congress, after the President's Message, reports of their several administrations. We subjoin some accounts of the War Department and the Naval Department.

"REPORT FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT."

"The actual strength of the army is only 10,745. The whole authorized strength is 14,216. The deficiency is fast decreasing by more rapid enlistments. The entire loss in Indian actions during the year is 4 officers and 63 men killed, and 4 officers and 42 men wounded. The occurrences on the frontier furnish deplorable proofs of the insufficiency of our military force, and of the absolute necessity for its increase, which was urged by the Secretary last year. The increased pay to enlisted men induced the enlistment of 1905 men in October and September last, against 309 men during the corresponding months last year. The number of recruits required for the service of the ensuing year will probably not be less than 6000. An increased pay for officers is urged as an act of justice and necessity. Additional legislation is asked to place the widows and orphans of the officers and soldiers of the army on an equality with the widows and orphans of the officers and soldiers of the navy. The necessity of a revision in military legislation is pointed out, in order to prevent conflicting claims in regard to rank and command, which now give rise to much inconvenience and trouble. One great source of difficulty is the double rank recognised. To remedy this, it is proposed to give effect to brevet rank only when the President may see fit, and forbid the exercise of brevet commissions in the regiment, troop, or company where officers are mustered. Elaborate suggestions for re-organisation of the staff corps are presented, and compared with European systems.

"REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY."

"The Secretary of the Navy recommends an additional but gradual increase of the navy, its reorganisation, and the enactment of new regulations for the discipline and improvement of seamen. Lieutenant Strain and party are complimented for enterprise and exhibition of powers of endurance and generous devotion to duty in the exploration of the Darien Ship Canal route. The result arrived at is, that the proposed canal is totally impracticable; and this, the Secretary apprehends, settles the question for ever. The Secretary does not propose to increase the number of officers, nor materially increase the current expenses, nor have a navy of the immense size and extent of some of the navies of European Powers; but to increase the material of our navy so as, at least, to approximate to a state of readiness for emergencies, which wise statesmen strive to avoid, but wiser statesmen prepare to meet. It is clearly of the opinion, also, that the number of men in the service should be increased at least 2500. The number of the marine corps is deemed entirely too small, and an indefinitely-stated increase is earnestly recom-

mended. The corps would be improved and elevated in character by adopting some system of appointing officers of military education and training. Professor Maury's achievements in developing his theory of winds and currents, and his preparation of charts, are noticed most flatteringly. It is estimated that the saving to our commerce by the use of his charts would amount to several millions per annum.

HALF-PAY OFFICERS SERVING IN THE MILITIA.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Times has exposed in a decided manner a most ingeniously contrived abuse.

"It appears that in the original draught of the Militia Bill the contingency of half-pay officers forming the constitutional force was overlooked. The consequence is, as I am informed, that the Secretary at War is obliged to pay the two demands, and that a major of militia, who is at the same time a captain on half-pay of the line, will as long as the force is permanently embodied, actually receive in hard money 7s. per diem more than his brother major in the army occupying the trenches before Sebastopol. This, clearly, cannot be right. There is an obvious remedy for the oversight. I assume that the Secretary at War is bound to act up to the Militia Bill as it stands, and that under the present rules he has no legal remedy."

OUR CIVILISATION.

ASSAULTING WOMEN.—Several of these cases have occurred this week. Gibbs, a cabinetmaker, was charged at Worship-street with assaulting a young woman with whom he had "cohabited" for some time. He went home one night in a state of savage excitement, and after sitting down to a comfortable supper which she had provided for him, he commenced roasting her with the coarsest epithets for not having furnished him with better fare, and ultimately caught up a heavy dish from the table, and flung it at her head. She succeeded by a rapid effort in evading the missile, which was dashed to pieces against the opposite wall, but the prisoner instantly renewed the attack upon her, and after pelting her with the chimney ornaments, he knocked her down by a violent blow in the eye, and inflicted the severe wound on her temple which she then exhibited. She entreated that he would have mercy upon her; but, without noticing her appeal, he fell upon her as she lay on the ground, and beat her in an unmerciful manner about her breasts and other parts of her person. The prisoner then forcibly dragged her along the floor, and declaring with an oath that "he would pitch her out of the window and do for her at once," he was in the act of carrying her across the room for that purpose, when the door was suddenly burst open by a policeman, who protected her from further ill-treatment. The policeman, however, had to bear the "farther ill-treatment" himself. The full term of six months was awarded to this ruffian.

At the same court, John Brown was proved to have seriously injured his wife. He beat her about the head and face with his fist; he broke a looking-glass into fragments upon her head, and struck her such a violent blow that he knocked her against the window, and her head broke four panes of glass. She was bleeding from the mouth. He exclaimed, "I'll murder the — before I've done with her." This was given in evidence by a policeman. The wife said she was a "Latter-day Saint," and would not take an oath. On being further pressed, she said she did not wish her husband to be punished. He was sentenced to three months hard labour.

At Southwark, an "elderly female" named Martha Sullivan, stated that she had been married to Patrick Sullivan nearly twenty years, and for a long time past he had led a dissipated life and frequently ill-used her. Many times he kicked her out of bed in the middle of the night, and turned her out of doors with her face and body covered with bruises, but she did not make any complaint. On Saturday night he came home and went up-stairs to the room where she was preparing supper. He was intoxicated and began to abuse her. She got out of the room to avoid his violence, and as she was descending the stairs he kicked her down to the bottom. He followed her and kicked her on the side of the body, arms, and face. Some of her neighbours fortunately heard her screams and fetched in a police-constable, who prevented him from committing further violence and took him into custody. The magistrate gave him three months, and said he was fortunate that it was not six months. But surely the recent act was not intended to contain a "fortunate" clause for convicted ruffians.

A coalheaver, taking advantage of a favourable time for brutality, when his wife had recently given birth to twins, went home and knocked her down. He then said she should not go to bed that night. Fearing to arouse his violence, she sat on a stool before the fire wrapped in a blanket. The defendant, at four o'clock, woke her by kicking her off the stool, after which he struck her on the head with the fire-

irons, and then grasped her so tightly round the throat, that the blood streamed out of her mouth. The remainder of his waste strength he employed in beating his children. He was committed for six months, and will then have to find two sureties in 25s. each. The prisoner remarked that his wife had annoyed him, and when women's tongues could be stopped, assaults would cease.

A "general dear" in violence—at Hammer-smith conducted himself in what is becoming the usual way to his wife. He was very drunk, and destroyed all the furniture. The magistrate gave him one month with hard labour, and promised six months for the next offence.

A "FRIENDLY SOCIETY."—A great number of poor people complained at the Southwark Police-office that they could not recover sums of money which they had lodged with a society called the "Southwark Tontine." The secretary had absconded with the money. Mr. A. Beckett facetiously asked if it was a Friendly Society, and regretted that he could only recommend them to employ a respectable solicitor.

A RESPECTABLE TRADESMAN.—Mr. Nunn, jeweller, of Goswell-road, has been held to bail in a very large amount, to answer the charge of tampering with the worth of various articles, after the Hall mark had been affixed. The Hall marks in some instances were altered; in others, they had been let into rings of inferior gold.

HEALTH OF LONDON.

TWELVE hundred and ninety-one persons, viz. 639 males and 652 females, were recorded in the London registers of deaths in the week that ended last Saturday. This is nearly the same number as was returned in each of the two previous weeks. In the ten weeks corresponding to last week of the years 1844-53 the average number of deaths was 1249, which, if a correction is made for increase of population, becomes 1374. The mortality of last week is therefore less than the estimated amount, but as the latter is increased by the influenza which prevailed in 1847, the present return is less favourable as regards the public health than the comparison appears to indicate.

STATISTICS OF CHOLERA.

The cholera in 1848-49 (15 months) was fatal to 14,593 persons; in the last epidemic, extending from August, 1853, to November, 1854 (16 months), 11,495 persons fell victims. Allowing for increase of population, the deaths to every 10,000 living, give an average of 64 in the former, and 46 in the latter. By cholera and diarrhoea together the deaths were—

1848-49 68,431 81 in 10,000
1853-54 15,762 63 in 10,000

The following facts, worked out by the Registrar-General, show distinctly the inverse relation that the mortality of cholera bears to the elevation of the ground—

On the lowest ground, taking the mean of the two epidemics, 13 in 1000 of the population—on the highest ground, 1 in 1000 of the population were destroyed by cholera.

At the intermediate stages of elevation was the danger of dying by cholera intermediate? To solve this important question, as regarded the epidemic of 1849, London was first sub-divided into terraces differing 20 feet in elevation; and, if the same course is pursued now, it is found that in the two epidemic years 18,569 persons died of cholera on the first terrace, (under 20 feet) of elevation; 3,757 on the second terrace, of ground, 20 feet and under 40 feet high; 2301 on the third terrace, 40 and under 60 feet high; 2279 on the fourth terrace, 60 and under 80 feet high; 392 on the fifth terrace, 80 to 100 feet; 278 on the higher terraces, of 100 feet up to 830 feet. The population was 850,000 on the lowest terrace, and about equal, or 400,000 on the second, the third, and the fourth terraces; while it was 142,000 on the fifth, and 121,000 on the highest terrace or terraces.

DISTINCTION NO FAVOUR.

It appears from the following extract of a Sergeant's letter to the Times, that promoting a man from corporal to sergeant is scarcely benefiting him. "It sometimes practically decreases his pay."

"I will air, with your permission, endeavour to show the difference in my own income weekly as a corporal, and as a sergeant. I am a married man. As a corporal I had 1s. 8d. per week, being in possession of three good conduct badges, which gave me 11s. 8d. per week, my wife washed for 16 men at 4d. each per week, which gave 6s. 4d. per week, making a total of 17s. per week. When promoted to sergeant I had 13s. 4d. per week, being a loser by my advancement, of 8s. 7d. per week, as, by an order from the Home Guards, sergeants' wives are deprived of the indulgence of a portion of the men's washing they enjoyed as corporals' wives; so, secondly, although I was promoted to rank, I was reduced in income."

THE POOR CLERGY.

The poor clergy of the Established Church are about to petition the Queen and the two Houses of Parliament for a more equal distribution of ecclesiastical revenues. The facts on which the petitioners ground their case are, that while bishops and great dignitaries receive enormous incomes, the yearly income of 10,000 parochial clergymen does not exceed 200*l.*, the yearly incomes of 7500 are under 150*l.*, and of 600 under 50*l.* The men who receive these pitiful salaries are the "working clergy."

ELECTIONS.

NORWICH.—The contest for this city, vacated by the resignation of Mr. Peto, who is now a Government contractor, has been terminated in favour of Sir Samuel Bignold, the Conservative candidate, who obtained a majority of 270 over Mr. Hamond, whose principles are Liberal.

AYR.—The electors have chosen another gallant soldier, Sir James Ferguson, who is in the Crimea. His principles are Conservative, and he gained a slight majority over the Liberal candidate, Mr. Oswald.

EDMURGH.—Mr. Stephen de Vere has been returned without opposition.

ASTON.—Captain Thomas Pakenham, brother of the late Colonel Pakenham, of the Guards, was elected without opposition one of the members for the county of Antrim.

SUNDERLAND.—Mr. Digby Seymour, having become Recorder of Newcastle, his seat for Sunderland has become vacant. However, he is eligible for re-election, but it is said his last public act, being a vote for the Foreigners Enlistment Bill, has somewhat damped the ardour of his Radical friends. He will make endeavours. Sir Charles Napier is also to be nominated, but the matter is doubtful.

JUNG BAHADUR.

The following extract from the Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* seems to point at further aggressive measures on the part of Russia. "The Nepalese Prince may once more be a public man:—

"The Nepalese Cabinet is increasing its military establishment to such an extent as to enforce the necessity of demanding explanations. The Minister professes the most cordial friendship for the British Government, and replies that the armies are intended for an expedition against Lassa; but there is some reason to suspect that these armaments have some connexion with the progress of Russian intrigues. This view of the case is strengthened by the recollection that similar augmentations of the military force of Nepal were made in 1837 and 1838, when the rumour was widely disseminated through India by the emissaries of Persia that a vast Russian army was marching down to the Indus."

THE NEW METROPOLITAN COMMISSION OF SEWERS.—MR. F. O. WARD'S STATEMENT.

We reported last week that portion of Mr. F. O. Ward's address which bore on the question of Private house drainage, and set forth his main conclusions on this branch of the subject, viz., that the powers contained in the Metropolitan Sewers Act, for improving private houses, and distributing the cost over thirty years, should no longer be suffered to lie dormant as heretofore, but should be actively exercised on above 100,000 cesspool houses lying within reach of existing sewers; precedence being given to houses marked out as worst by cholera and typhus; death-houses, of which from 10,000 to 20,000 might readily be drained and purified before the next hot season—a simple and practical measure calculated to effect not only a large diminution in next year's mortality, but also an immediate abatement of individual cleansing costs, and other pecuniary burdens thrown on the ratepayers, and on society at large, by the cost of preventable sickness and death.

From private house drainage Mr. Ward proceeded to Street, or District drainage, respecting which, he said, it had been the policy of former Commissions to run sewers through extensive districts of the town, without, at the same time, carrying branches right and left to drain the houses on each side; so that the sewers were like rivers without tributaries, deprived of the streams necessary to keep their current flowing, and consequently liable, as natural rivers would be under like circumstances, to silt up. If the Wey, the Wandse, the Brent, and other tributary streams, in the proportion of nine-tenths of the whole number, were cut off from the Thames, what would become of the scour of that river, or what human power could hinder its channel from rapidly choking up? And so if a street sewer, a sort of artificial river, calculated to receive the flow of say 1000 houses or more, received branches from only one-tenth, or, as often happened, from only one-twentieth of the number,

how could it be otherwise than that the feeble stream, trickling in a thin, wide-spread sheet over a relatively enormous invert, should be insufficient to carry away the matters held in suspension, and should leave them to accumulate as a fermenting and pestiferous deposit? In illustration of this point, Mr. Ward cited a recent report by Mr. Cooper, one of their own officers, on the drainage of the Golden-square district—that district which was so fearfully ravaged by cholera a few months since. Speaking of Great Pulteney-street, in which a new sewer was built at the beginning of this year, and where many deaths have nevertheless occurred, Mr. Cooper states that of the forty-one houses in the street two only were found to have made applications to drain into the sewer; and so with respect to other parts of the district, the old cesspools and defective brick overflow drains had been suffered to remain beneath the houses, "so that," says the reporter, "with very few exceptions the house drainage of the locality remains in the same imperfect state as previous to the new sewers being built." It had been urged, Mr. Ward said, in defence of this policy, that it was the duty of each householder to see to the drainage of his own premises; but this, he thought, was an unreasonable requirement, and a system which the experience just cited showed to be practically insufficient to secure the great end in view, viz., the rapid elimination of cesspools. Householders were for the most part persons engaged in the active cares and anxieties of business, totally unacquainted with the principles of house drainage, uninformed as to its importance, and often therefore both unable and unwilling to take the initiative in these subterranean improvements, and to carry on of their own accord, the campaign against cesspools. If the private house drainage were to be thus abandoned to the piecemeal operations of individual householders, acting each at his own time, and employing each his own bricklayer, another century might be expected to elapse before the work would be done; and when done it would in most cases prove defective, and would be found to have cost three or four times as much as similar works executed in combination, for groups of houses, by contractors responsible to a public body, and subject to the supervision of professional inspectors. It was therefore, in his judgment, an administrative fallacy to separate the private from the public portion of works, which were as much parts of a connected whole as the main arteries and terminal capillaries of the human body. Practical experience contradicted the theory that individuals could be relied on to do the work, however advantageous to themselves when done. It was contrary to sound political economy, and to the principle of the division of labour, to impose on each member of the community a sort of apprenticeship to the drainage trade; nor could an entire population be expected to acquire that special knowledge concerning sanitary evils and their remedies, which it appertained to themselves (the commissioners) to obtain and apply on behalf of their fellow-citizens. He had consulted contractors of large experience in works of this kind, and their opinion was, that if the Commissioners provided the capital for private house drainage, and distributed the charge so as to bring that capital back with interest in thirty years, they would meet with no resistance, but on the contrary be welcomed by the householders, who were willing enough to pay for comfort, cleanliness, and improvement rate, generally less than their present cesspool-cleansing costs, which the improved arrangements would do away with. So that, in every point of view, looking to the separate interest of each householder in the cheap and effectual drainage of his own house, as well as to the collective interest of the whole body of householders in the perfect flow and scour of the common sewer, it was important that street drainage should not be carried on as heretofore as a detached and independent work; and that they should adopt, on the contrary, as a main rule of their new policy, the combined extension of public and private drainage works as inseparable parts of one connected whole, each indispensable to the efficiency of the other, and both admitting of cheaper and better execution when executed in conjunction.

Mr. Ward next adverted to the size of the sewers, which he said was usually excessive, regard being had to the flow of water having in each case to be conveyed away. The old policy, he said, had been based on the assumption that sewers must necessarily accumulate deposit, and that it was therefore indispensable to make them large enough for the entry of workmen to rake out and remove the filth. The new policy, based on an extensive and increasing experience, with perfectly successful results, assigned as the proper measure for a sewer, not the stature of man, but the quantity of water to be conveyed away. At Manchester, for example, where the new policy prevailed, they had sixty acres of house-covered surface draining with success through an oval pipe only 25 inches by 18; while here we had often a man-size sewer to drain a small street. On this point Mr. Ward dwelt, at some length, reading portions of a letter he had received from the Manchester Sanitary Engineer, to show the success and economy of pipe-

drainage in that town, where oval tubes had been employed as sewers for ten years past, with a saving of about 10,000*l.* in first cost to the inhabitants, and with the further advantage of complete relief, in the streets sewered with these pipes, from the noxious accumulations which abound in the districts drained by large brick sewers. Mr. Ward also instanced the pipe-drainage of Croydon in proof of the triumphant success of the new system. The Cholera-morbus, that unbiassed inspector-general, had visited Croydon this year, but which of the houses had he ravaged?—only those not yet connected with the tubular drainage. He had that day seen a letter from a surgeon at Croydon, stating that not a single cholera death had occurred in any one of the tubed-drained houses, and that these pipe-sewers had effected a striking improvement in the health of the population. At the same time Mr. Ward explained that he was no unreasoning partisan of pipes, but quite recognised the necessity of brick-sewers, and large ones too, to convey away the storm-waters of a vast surface like that of London. Pipe-sewers and brick sewers, he said, should be employed in their proper places; and he held it absurd to spend many times the needful sum on drainage, by sewer-ing each little street of a town with a culvert large enough to drain the whole; or even with a pipe such as the experience of Manchester showed to be sufficient for the effectual relief of sixty acres. The consequence of former errors in this respect, coupled with errors in levelling the sewers, was, that subterranean London was in a state of anarchy and hideous filth, of which few persons had anything like an adequate conception. These horrors had been brought to light by the subterranean survey executed in 1849 by officers of this Commission; and since that time many of the sewers had been getting worse instead of better. In illustration, he would read a short passage from the report of the subterranean surveyors, setting forth that many miles of sewers "are in a rotten state," that even in such localities as Belgrave and Eaton squares "they abound with noxious matter, in many cases stopping up the house drains, and smelling horribly;" that "in the districts of Grosvenor, Hanover, and Berkeley squares, as a rule, considerable deposit is found in the sewers, emitting much effluvia;" that "much of the work about Cavendish, Brynmston, Manchester, and Portman squares is in such a state of rottenness and decay that there is no security for its standing from day to day;" that "there is a large amount of the most loathsome deposit in these sewers, but the act of flushing might bring some of them down altogether;" and that "even in the new neighbourhood of Hyde Park Gardens, and the costly squares and streets adjacent, the sewers abound with the foulest deposit, from which the most disgusting effluvia arises."

Now the policy at present pursued, so far from putting an end to this state of things, tended rather to its perpetuation. The evil, no doubt, was the growth of centuries; and inheriting, as we did, the accumulated consequences of the errors of many generations, we could not expect to remedy them all at once. Still, we should look the evil in the face; we should recognise it, and grapple fairly with it, instead of helplessly accepting it as a normal or, at any rate, an incurable state of things, only to be mitigated by palliative half-measures, such as, for example, measures of partial cleansing of the sewers, for which we paid 20,000*l.* a year, or about 20*l.* per mile of sewer per annum, with no better result than the keeping down of the deposit, as the cleansing contracts ran, "to a depth not exceeding six inches in the sewers." Away with such half-and-half measures, he said. Let it be recognised, and plainly stated to the public, that whatever it may cost to convey filth rapidly and completely out of the town, it costs far more to keep it fermenting among us. Let then, take "Sewers without sediment" as their motto, and keep this principle in view to guide them in all their plans, and hold it up as a flag to fight under against all difficulties. Six inches of sediment could no more be tolerated than six feet. It amounted to many thousands of tons in the aggregate, and it spread beneath London an artificial marsh of the deadliest kind, hundreds of acres in extent. To set this stagnant filth in motion was the task before them. This form of Stagnancy, like every other, must give way to the new principle of Continuous Circulation; by which he meant that every kind of refuse produced in a city should, at the very instant of its production, begin to move, and never cease moving, at the average rate of three miles an hour, till it was far away in the country, there to be made available for agriculture. He did not say that they could in all cases accomplish this at once, but they might make a beginning. Each mile of sewer should be carefully studied, with a view to the adoption of means for the prevention of deposit. In many cases the mere concentration of the flow now spread over a wide invert would accomplish the desired result. This appeared from an experiment made under the Trial Works Committee, by Mr. Hale; who laid 560 feet of 12-inch pipe along the bottom of a large sewer, 5 feet 6

by 3 feet 6, draining 44 acres, and constantly accumulating deposit. A wall having been built across the sewer, so as to direct the whole current into the pipe, this was found to take the whole ordinary sewage flow, together with heavy and continuous rain (but not storms), and to convey the stream thus concentrated at four-and-a-half times the velocity it had possessed in the wide sewer, so that the pipe, instead of accumulating deposit like the sewer, was kept perfectly scoured out by its own current, though, even after ninety-six hours' heavy rain, it only ran half full. Wherever it was possible to hinder deposit by thus piping old sewers, the saving of 20*l.* per mile in annual cleansing costs would, at 4 per cent., justify an outlay of 500*l.* per mile, which would go far to pay the expense of the operation. These were merely indications of one remedy amongst several which would be available, under the varying circumstances of different sewers, for the prevention of deposit. He would have other opportunities of setting forth the complete arrangements which we must ultimately adopt for the realisation of the principle—"Sewers without sediment." In the mean time he ventured, with much deference, to submit three maxims—"Sewers without sediment," and "the Concurrent extension of public and private drainage," as embodying two fixed and guiding principles of the new policy to be adopted in this branch of their operations.

Mr. Ward then proceeded to examine the scheme of Main Intercepting drainage, which in its present form, he said, would prove "a costly failure." But we must defer for separate notice his observations on this important subject, as well as his observations on the Agricultural Utilisation of the sewerage, and on the various plans of precipitation, pipe irrigation, &c., now in course of trial for that purpose.

LOTTERY SWINDLING IN SALFORD.

THE police of Salford have discovered an extensive system of gambling, carried on in that borough by means of lotteries. Money or loan clubs have long been very common in Manchester and Salford, and in order to blind the police and other authorities as to their practices, associations of persons in Salford carrying on these lotteries have designated them, in placards and otherwise, "money clubs." At one public-house, it was stated that weekly lotteries were drawn, in which as many as 10,000 shilling tickets were sometimes sold amongst the working classes, whilst the prizes yielded varied from 10*s.* to 40*l.* Working people went with their wages to this house in such numbers that they blocked up the passages and street leading to it. Attempts to suppress it were made by remonstrances, but the conductors found the system too profitable willingly to relinquish it, and the police ultimately found that more secret means only were resorted to, by hiring rooms for the lotteries, sometimes in one and sometimes in another part of the borough. Under these circumstances they last week made a seizure of the conductors of one of these clubs, together with the lottery wheels, racks, tickets, prize notes, and whole machinery while in operation.

THE COURT.

THE Royal Christmas has been passed at Windsor. The Duke of Newcastle was at the dinner on Monday, with Viscount Canning, who attended Prince Albert on a shooting excursion. Admiral Sir Charles Napier has been one of the later guests, and, of course, the Baron and Baroness von Usedom.

The Royal Christmas Presents to the poor will be distributed on Monday.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

THE *Tablet* thus records its satisfaction with the state and prospects of Roman Catholicism:—

"The Immaculate Conception is now a solemn article of Catholic faith. On Friday, the 8th instant, Pius IX., with two hundred bishops before him, promulgated that definition, so long sighed for by the universal Church.

"For Pius IX. it was a crowning day; in spite of the political storms that whirled so black and so threatening about the towering head of the Catholic world, never did a Pope see brighter or happier days. When her Hierarchy was rendered back to England and to Holland after three centuries of schisms and of heresy, and when, farther off, between the Pacific and the Atlantic, the fair structure of a regular Catholic Episcopate was built up in the United States of America—when Austria abandoned her Josephian statues, and bade the Church be free—when Gaul put off her Gallicanism, and sued the Sovereign Pontiff to complete the work of reconstructing human society from the ruins which Rationalism had made of it:—these, in sooth, were all bright days; any one of them would have shed enough of splendour on a Pontificate. But the 8th of December, in the year of grace 1854, was the perfect illustration, and the crown of all these immortal triumphs. Was ever the freedom of the Church more complete in every part of the world? In the words of a writer in the *Examiner*

of last week, France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, and we will add, England, Ireland, America, India, and Australia, 'pour into Rome their Episcopates at the Pope's bidding, without leave or license of the state—without thinking or caring about the approval or disapproval of their sovereigns. The Pope issues his mandate, and it is obeyed, whether princes like it or not.' This is just, and is it not grand? Compared to it what grandeur, what power, what freedom, what extension has any of your earthly potentates—your kings and emperors of a petty domain? It is a full meridian manifestation of the supremacy of the spiritual order over the temporal; and it is a happy circumstance and every way natural that the occasion of honouring the Mother has served so well to illustrate the triumphs of the Church of her Divine Son. Here the Catholicity and the Unity of the Church of Christ are brought at once under the eye and made palpable to the touch. So much genius and learning, so much faith and piety carried to Rome by men of so many different countries and climes, representing congregations separated by barriers the strongest, geographical and political,—separated by manners, customs, languages—differing in interests, inclination, and in race, but all united as one man in religion, having, like the first believers, but one heart and one faith, one hope, one baptism. It is stupendous, and evidently the work of God. If not, why has human power effected nothing of the sort? Small wonder, therefore, that the enemies of truth should feel disheartened and discomfited by what has been doing at Rome. The bear-eyed and the blind advocates of error are, naturally, ill at ease in presence of those dazzling splendours. But very lately the Protestantism of England, foaming and dishevelled like a drunken sybil, stammered and mouthed its malicious prophecies about the fall of the Church and the Papacy. Now, however, those who have eyes to see can see, and it seems pretty plain, after all, that the soreness derived her inspiration as well as her fury from the father of lies."

A groan is thus given for the heretics:

"Heaven look down in pity on the poor Protestants of England. While the Bishops of the Catholic world are before the Holy Father, attesting the concordant consent of the Faithful throughout the universe on a most delicate and beautiful article of Christian revelation, the poor Protestants behold the primary elements of Christian dogma uprooted among them. In the English Church, the decision in the Gorham case has long since made it evident that neither the authorities nor the people have any fixed or settled opinions on the great subject of the transmission of original sin, and the efficacy and necessity of baptism. Accordingly, it was only the other day that Lord Palmerston proclaimed before the peasantry of Hampshire that all children are born with good dispositions of mind and heart; that they are born simply good. A plain revival of the very same Pelagianism against which Saint Augustine wrote 1400 years ago. They have nobody to teach them, and every man amongst them is a sort of a teacher. In spite of all the Bishop of Oxford and others have done and said about the Church, and the canons, and the articles, and the rubrics being in danger and disorder, they cannot assemble a Convention of one Ecclesiastical province, and if assembled, it could agree to nothing. Its articles travel off like the rainbow to widen the pale of the Church's communion, and to prevent its members from going beyond them. It is a show of a Church. It is simply ludicrous to call this mimic creature of the State—tied up hands and feet, and gagged by the State—it is silly to call this gorgeous plaything of the civil law a Church. Intellectually considered England is the land of scepticism, especially religious scepticism, the cold, dark region of endless and aimless doubt, without an authority to clear up, decide, or define anything. Its ideas are all shades—evanescent, shapeless, empty, and vain. Meantime everybody is teaching every other body—every man doubting and discussing, and this, they say—though it is never to end in anything like truth—this is enlightenment. The devil of pride has so possessed the nation that it would undertake to decide the affairs of the world, human and divine."

GIVING GLOVES TO JUDGES.

THE following—which is properly a subject for *Notes and Queries*—is from the *Oxford University Herald*. It shows clearly that every facility is given for the magistrates coming into court with clean hands; but the price is ruinous, and will, doubtless, excite the horror of Houbigant, and the jealousy of Jouvin:—

"In the course of a town council meeting, two bills were mentioned for gloves to the judges, two pair of which were charged 30*s.* each, and one pair 2*l.* 2*s.* The difference in price was commented on, and it was explained by several councillors, on the authority of Mr. Lucas, that the two-guinea gloves were better in quality than those at 30*s.* On this, Mr. John Plowman asked why the city should be put to this expense at all?—Mr. E. T. Spiers was desirous of knowing the origin of the custom of giving them?—The Mayor believed it was that the gloves were given in lieu of the personal attendance of the Mayor at the assizes. If this were so, as he did not mind the trouble and meant to attend, there was no reason why they should be continued. In many places gloves were given on occasions when there

were no prisoners for trial; but this was never the case with Oxford, unfortunately.—Alderman Thorpe suggested that the gloves were given as a way of showing respect to the Sovereign.—Alderman Grubb was of opinion that the city had nothing whatever to do with the judges; it was a county affair.—Alderman Spiers regarded the giving of the gloves as indicative that the Mayor of the city gave up his power for the time being; at all other times he was her Majesty's representative in the city, but when the judges came in he gave up his own power to them.—Mr. Plowman moved that these bills be paid; but that the custom be discontinued.—Alderman Grubb seconded.—The Mayor said he could receive the first part of the resolution, but not the second.—Mr. Carr then gave notice that he would move at the next council that the custom be henceforth discontinued."

MISCELLANEOUS.

A RETAINER OF THE GREAT SIR WALTER.—Peter Mathieson, for nearly 30 years coachman to Sir Walter Scott, died at Abbotsford on Thursday last, at the great age of 84 or 85 years. He was brother-in-law of Sir Walter's faithful Tom Purdie, and was taken into the poet's service about the year 1804, when Scott first set up a carriage. The pages of "Lockhart's Life" make frequent mention of the trusty and favourite charioter. The bowling-green at Abbotsford was placed where it is in order that Sir Walter might listen of an evening to the voice of prayer and praise from the coachman's cottage.

DISGRACEFUL FRAUDS IN THE LONDON DOCKS.—Messrs. Ridley and Co., of Crutched-friars, have issued a circular, explaining at some length certain frauds in the "demon regions" of the wine-vaults, which have mystified the suffering merchants for some time. At a "rummage sale" bad sour wine is purchased for next to nothing. It is then carefully vatted, and deposited in open spaces with valuable wines. Here is one case given:—"On the 6th of April last, the St. Katharine Dock Company had a rummage sale, consisting of sour port, French, Italian, and other wines. A Mr. — purchased extensively, at prices varying from 5*s.* to 17*s.* 6*d.* per hogshead for French, 30*s.* per pipe for Italian; and for about four pipes of port, in assorted casks, he ventured to pay from 1*l.* to 5*l.* per 115 gallons, the bulk of which he immediately removed to the vating floor of the London Docks. On the 5th of May the four ports were vatted, on the 12th the French—in the St. Katharine Docks, and on the 30th the Italian, in the London. All, without exception, were drawn from the vats into good port-shaped pipes, and forthwith sent to, and housed at the East vault, perhaps stowed amongst your fine 1847's and 1851's. Be that as it may, in a short time the Italian (33 pipes), port (4 pipes), and French (4 pipes), in all 41 pipes, were miraculously metamorphosed into excellent port. Altogether, this year, six or seven such vattings have been made by one party. Thus about 70 pipes have been transmuted in this extraordinary manner: after being housed at the East vault they are turned out 'fine port,' worth 30*l.* to 38*l.* per pipe." It is suggested that the officials, in the night, run off the bad wine, and fill up the casks with selections from the good—to the astonishment of the givers of "tasting orders," who cannot imagine how tasters can take so much.

A STRIKING CONTRAST.—While the Church of England in the thirty years from 1801 to 1831—though in undisturbed possession of the whole administrative, legislative, and judicial power of the nation—had advanced its sittings only 18.6 per cent., the Independents had in twenty years augmented theirs 60.2 per cent., the Baptists 79 per cent., and the Wesleyan Methodists 233 per cent. 1.—*Voluntaryism in England and Wales.*

THE NEW CATTLE MARKET.—Arrangements have been made with the Great Northern Railway which will materially add to the welfare of both railway and market. Gates will be made in the wall which divides both territories, so that the cattle coming to town will only have to alight from their fourth class carriages and be killed without trouble. Proper receptacles are being constructed for all classes who may arrive—good roomy buildings—with the roofs supported by iron columns, the capitals of which represent heads of the particular animals destined for the departments. There is in connexion with these markets an arrangement which, from the humanity it displays, if for no other reason, deserves especial notice—namely, the floors of these market-places are raised just to the height of the bottom of a cart, so that the animals, when sold, may walk from their pens into the vehicles without being subjected to the (in many instances) cruel compulsion at present practised. Abattoirs are being organised in the neighbourhood, and the wretched scenes in the streets will soon be avoided.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS.—A bill, just prepared and brought in by Mr. Ewart, Mr. Brotherton, and Mr. G. A. Hamilton, proposes to repeal the Library Act of 1850, but not to invalidate by such repeal anything done in pursuance of the same act, nor to disturb already established libraries and museums. The object of the bill appears simply to extend the benefits of the measure of 1850 to towns governed under local acts, and to parishes. All libraries opened under this Act will be free of charge.

QUEEN VICTORIA AND SANTA ANNA.—According to a Mexican correspondent of the *New York Herald*, her Majesty Queen Victoria has refused to accept the grand cross of the Order of Guadalupe from Santa Anna.

COLONEL COLT.—This gallant officer has written to the *Times* denying most decisively that he is manufacturing arms for the Russian Government.

WORKING MAN'S EMIGRATION SOCIETY.—This society has had a narrow escape from being broken up, owing to the difficulty which members find in agreeing as to rules. At a recent meeting, Sir John Shelley and some other directors wrote to say that they would resign if certain rules were not altered. The meeting refused to alter them, but doubted the right of the directors to resign.

THE BURIAL GROUND QUESTION.—The Torrington Burial Board is quietly taking a decided course, in opposition to the Bishop of Exeter. That prelate has, in reply to their respectful remonstrance, approved of the conduct of his Secretary, and says he cannot consecrate the ground at Torrington because of the 85th canon, which requires churchyards to be "well and sufficiently fenced and maintained with walls." The Board having obtained the approval of the Home Secretary in respect to the ground intended to be consecrated, have applied to the parish vestry to vote the requisite funds. Before the Vestry meeting the Board pledged itself anew to carry out their design intact—to spend no more on the episcopalian than on the dissenting chapel, and to build the two chapels in all respects alike. The Vestry voted the sum required with the utmost readiness, and without offering any exception to the Board's plan; and the usual notices for raising the money and for contracts have been issued. Should therefore the Bishop persevere in his refusal to consecrate, there is a prospect that the inhabitants of the place will, *volens volens*, be all buried in unconsecrated earth.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, December 30.

THE CRIMEA.

A telegraphic despatch from Constantinople says: "Admiral Dundas goes home. He is to be succeeded by Sir Edmund Lyons."

"Admiral Hamelin will shortly be relieved by Admiral Bruat."

PROCEEDINGS AT ANAPA.

A letter from Malta says:—

"On the morning of Nov. 12, when H.M. ships *Tri-bune*, *Highflyer*, and *Lynx* were cruising off Anapa and the Straits of Kertch, a large white building, which was afterwards discovered to be a martello tower, was observed on a spit of sand about ten miles to the westward of Anapa; as the ships neared the shore two smaller ones, so placed as to flank the approach to the larger one, came in view; and when within half-a-mile from the beach a gun was fired from the tower."

"The ships were immediately anchored in four fathoms of water, with their broadsides bearing on the tower, and after a few rounds of shot and shell the party in charge evacuated it, and fled along the sands in the direction of Anapa, leaving behind them many accoutrements, muskets, &c. The boats were then manned, and a party landed to destroy the works, and endeavour to bring off the guns, one iron 30-pounder, and one brass 18-pounder, with instructions to blow up the fort afterwards. The brass gun was lowered down and placed in a cart; but the wind and sea had increased so quickly that all hope of carrying it off was abandoned, and the boats' crews were compelled to re-embark as speedily as possible."

"The tower, with the ammunition within it, was blown up and destroyed; but from some unexplained cause the explosion took place prematurely, and Capt. Moore and Lieut. Smith were both most severely scorched and injured."

The *Augsburg Gazette* publishes the following letter from Vienna of the 22nd:—

"The accounts from St. Petersburg, which are in circulation at many of the embassies here, agree in saying that the Czar rejects all idea of concession, and that he is resolved to prosecute the war with vigour. The reports from Galicia, in their turn, state that the Austrian troops are abandoning their winter quarters, and concentrating themselves at Cracow, Lemberg, and Stanislaw. General Hess is about to establish his headquarters at Lemberg."

It is stated in the diplomatic circles of Paris that the Prussian Cabinet has made indirect propositions to those of London and Paris, which, if they should be successful, would secure its adhesion to the treaty of Vienna. It appears that the Prussian Government, jealous of the influence acquired by that of Austria in taking under its protection the interests of Southern Germany, is desirous of constituting itself the protector of German interests in the North.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 7, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.

Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

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The Leader.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1854.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

CONSPIRACY FOR PEACE.

THE Emperor Nicholas is winning the game. The English Government, which went into the war with reluctance, and which has conducted the war with a stupidity that, at times, has looked like treachery, is conspiring for a peace. An "honourable peace," of course: was there ever a peace which was not "honourable," according to the diplomatists?

There is no doubt that a great change has taken place in the public mind in respect to the war. Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden have influenced thousands who have, all their life, been laughing at the Peace Society. The officers of the army write home letters which bring family circles to the conclusion that Lord Aberdeen is a safe statesman. Military opinion is asserting that Russia is unassailable. Conservative opinion is asserting that Poland would cost a twenty years war. The financial-minded are observing the prices of the winter, and fearing new taxes. The aristocracy knows it is unequal to the war, and that it would be dangerous to its prestige to go on much longer. The democracy knows that a war with liberal "eventualities" cannot be trusted to an aristocracy leagued with French and Austrian despotisms. In short, "the feeling" is for peace: and the Government is attempting a peace.

The Emperor of the French does not act as if he believed in peace. He orders a new conscription, and commands a great loan. But France does not look warlike. France has had no stimulating glory since Alma. The battles of Balaklava and of Inkerman were English battles. France has a horror of a conscription for a war Frenchmen do not quite comprehend. The funds go down on the announcement of the loan. The press (of Paris) does not take advantage of the permission given it to write freely about the war. France is a nation of military critics; and they do not think the war has been well managed, or that it even can be well managed under the gentle and old English generals, or the brave French mediocrities to whom the jealous Emperor has confided a great army. We have yet to see

how the loan will be "taken;" at present it would appear that public opinion in France is not enthusiastically warlike. His Majesty Louis Napoleon is observant, and may be induced by circumstances to aid the English Government in a conspiracy for peace.

The Parliaments of France and England are alike delusive representations. The press of the one country is fettered, and the press in London seems as if it were gradually being bought up by the Government. Diplomacy is, consequently, in the ascendant; and Diplomats are always in favour of peace. Austria would consummate her cleverness by effecting a peace. Prussia is confessedly seeking "honourable" conditions for Russia. The mission of M. von Usedom was laughed at; but it appears to us that M. von Usedom came to London at a moment peculiarly favourable for his purpose: and we do not doubt that he has been enabled to send to his master a very explanatory report of the aspect of affairs at Windsor and in Downing-street. His report of the public opinion in England would not be altogether discouraging. All foreigners think that the *Times* is public opinion; and the *Times* is daily saying that for saying which the *Leader* is considered Republican—that the English aristocracy has neither the intellect nor the energy for the war, and that the prospect is a prospect of disasters. The *Times* has an object in its argument that all our generals are cowards or fools—and that is the infamous argument of the *Times*. The *Times*, interested in an English statesman who is convinced that England is wrong in the quarrel, is seeking a peace; and it is therefore very weak in the ministerial journals to abuse the *Times* which is thus, with a craftiness the ordinary ministerial journalist cannot comprehend, so effectually and so unscrupulously doing the Government's work.

What is to prevent a peace—an "honourable" peace? The pride of the Czar, who, though he may appreciate the illusions of the four points, may resolve to wait for a better opportunity of going into negotiations—when the French and English Governments may be entreating rather than demanding a cessation of war. There is, however, let us hope, another obstacle to peace—the conscience and honour of the English Liberal party.

The Liberal party is no doubt disgusted with the war, while somewhat alarmed by the Foreign Legion mesurée—a measure rendered necessary, the Government alleges, by the failure of the recruiting among our own population. The Liberal party detests the Austrian alliance. The Liberal party is impressed with the notion that an English Government with despotic allies must be a Tory Government, and they do not enjoy the function of clearing the road for Lord Derby's return to power. They object to the establishment of arbitrary Government, and in the late short session arbitrary Government was established. The probability, therefore, is that the Liberal party in Parliament would not oppose the Ministers who accomplished peace. When Lord John Russell was speaking, the other night—a speech which came strangely from the man who had declared, four months previously, for the destruction of Sebastopol—he was cheered by the Liberals. When Mr. Bright was speaking, yesterday week—a speech of conspicuous illogicality and painful pathos—he must have felt that the Liberal party had come round to him.

But the Liberals of England have a duty to Europe to discharge. A peace now, a treaty drawn up by Austria, would be a treaty to consolidate despotism in Europe, England being a party to that consolidation. Russia might be humiliated; but the Russian system would be triumphant.

PROPOSED DESERTION OF THE BRITISH FLAG.

"PEACE!"—Who first used that word as the name of a thing that is at hand? Lord John Russell. Others have talked of it as the end of all legitimate war; some few members, of a peculiar sect, regard Peace as a thing that ought never to be broken; some very few men, who would not perhaps understand the feeling of pride in being called "an Englishman," have counselled Peace on Russia's own terms. But Lord John, our Englishman, a statesman, a man professing to represent his country, a Minister of the Crown, he has first used the word with a practical hint that propositions might be accepted from Russia. Ay, he used the word now, when Russia is strengthening herself in a way that indicates an obstinate pursuit of her malignant war. Now Lord John did not use the word in a hasty speech; it came out in a short speech on the last evening before the adjournment,—a declaration intended to correct his remarkable anti-Austrian escapade on the first night of the session. What does this mean? If Lord John was tired on the first night of the session, he did not seem so on the last. Even in this avowedly revised speech, he spoke of Austria with reserve and doubt, of Russia with an admission of hope that no one can entertain. Is there then a section of the Cabinet which mistrusts the Austrian alliance, and thinks a Russian reconciliation not impossible?

There are some reasons for apprehending as much. The Duke of Argyll had spoken with indignation of the idea of restoring the nationalities. Lord Carlisle, one of the best specimens of the Whig species, was shocked at the barbarity of attempting to humiliate Russia. Lord John himself was the one to proclaim that the war would not end in abridging the territorial possessions of Russia. Thus the Whigs hold out the probability of a war for nothing, or one only to keep Russia from Constantinople. What may be the reasons for such a course? Two, at least, occur to us.

The Whig Ministers are not alone in desiring to have done with the war against Russia. There are persons in the English army of the Crimea who are equally anxious to be quit of a disagreeable duty. Two hundred officers, it is affirmed, have desired to resign their posts. And why? Is it the fear of the danger? No; we believe that personal timidity is rare among Englishmen of any rank; but it is the hard work, the tedium, the mud. Two hundred officers want to resign their posts, because the war calls them from the pleasanter pursuits of life. There may be—*we believe there is*—another reason. As the war advances it becomes necessary to reward the gallantry of the non-commissioned classes, and sergeants are obtaining commissions a score in a month. This, from the carpet knight point of view, renders war ungentlemanly as well as muddy and laborious; nay worse—"subversive." A war, therefore, which leads gentlemen into mud, which elevates common sergeants to the mess, and might end even in promoting Italy to be a nation, or in reviving Poland, is distasteful to the commission-bearing class. Some of them want to come home; some, who have a little respect for public opinion, wish to be recalled: and for that aim they wish the war at an end. They see the claims of Russia in a new light, since resistance to the Czar hazards the restoration of Poles, and elevates sergeants to the mess-table.

There would indeed be one short act to the relief of those poor gentlemen now in the Slough of Despond—*id est*, Balaklava: that would be, to let them come home, and to leave the two hundred commissions vacant for officers in marching regiments—which are

working regiments—or for sergeants. But, from the Conservative point of view, that course would be open to the serious objection of exposing the fact that the chivalry of England is *effete*, or that it must be sought in lower grades than that which claims to be the hereditary chivalry. Russia then is rehabilitated as the Grand Protector of British chivalry from the pains of exposure to real vulgar war; and the part of the Cabinet, or extra-Cabinet, which represents these Russian preferences, begins to talk of retiring from the Crimea without conquest, and of concluding peace with Russia unbought by any cession of Russian territory!

The only hope of success for such a party, which may be found in the Cabinet, in the camp, and in the journals, lies in equivocation. The country at large is untainted by such cowardice, such unchivalrous and unpatriotic meanness. Nothing has been more remarkable than the concurrence of the entire nation in the war. The interruption of the peace has had the most blessed effect upon public feeling in this country—it has corrected every great national vice: the apathy into which England was sinking has been roused; the aristocracy and the landed gentry have been called out to display liberality and personal gallantry; the commercial classes have universally shown a spirit of patriotic chivalry and of sacrifice altogether unexpected; the working classes have been rendered harmonious with their fellow-countrymen, although their popular rights are still ungranted. No, we are only too much forced to believe that these admirable consequences of a just war are amongst the reasons why it is disliked by the Whig Ministers. It is evident that it produces in the political world just the same effect as it produces in the regiment. It calls out the gallantry of all classes, and obliges the shams to give way. We have had sham officers in military-looking coats and trousers, strutting about on parade, who dislike the battle-field; and they want to retire from a post too high for them. We have had Liberals strutting about on the political parade; but now, when they see a chance that the down-trodden nations may be effectually rescued from servitude, or when they see the working and middle classes—the sergeants and common soldiers of society—coming forth with every manifestation of chivalry, then in their hearts they feel afraid, and, like their prototypes in the Cabinet, they talk of giving up the war.

WORKING OFFICERS AND GENTLEMEN VOLUNTEERS.

SHOULD the war continue, it is quite evident that alterations already commenced in the army for foreign services and the resident corps for home service, will have to be greatly extended. Two hundred officers, it is reported, had sent in their resignations to Lord Raglan, wishing to return home. It is not, of course, to be presumed that they are timid men; there is reason to believe that they would face the enemy as boldly as the bravest; but they dislike the dirty work and the drudgery of the military life. It is not the Russians at Inkerman, but the mud at Balaklava, that they detest to face. There are men of high birth and large property who enter with zest into the whole trials of military business; take a pride in roughing it, and bear the climate of Balaklava as bravely as they did the assault at Inkerman. Such men are real soldiers, equally with the tried soldiers in marching regiments, and such, of course, have not resigned. They are genuine volunteers. But there are others who are there perforce. Now, we do not say that such officers will be cowards before the enemy, but we do say that, reluctant, grumbling, shrinking with nicety from the work in

the back settlements of the camp, they must be bad and demoralising examples to the soldiers. They must sow the seeds of cowardice, although they would not have the moral courage to reap the fruit of disgrace in the face of the enemy. Those two hundred men, therefore, are a canker in the heart of the British army in the Crimea, and they ought to be extirpated as fast as possible. They should be allowed to come home, and punished by being forced into a separate corps for duty on drawing-room days—the only duty, it appears, which they really relish. Their place can easily be supplied. There are officers from the marching regiments, there are non-commissioned officers in the regiments of the Crimea, who have not this drawing-room view of a soldier's life, and would accept with gladness the duties from which these men shrink.

On the other hand, there are many reasons why the general body of the home force should be augmented. If we are to have foreigners amongst us, and they occasion some alarm, what could be a more appropriate counter-balance, than to swamp them, as it were, with numbers of the resident corps. How could we stand in fear of 10,000 or 15,000 foreigners if we had 100,000 or 150,000 Englishmen? But, a proper resident corps, which is the first nursery for soldiers, cannot be moved about, even within the limits of the United Kingdom, unless it be "embodied,"—that is, received into permanent pay, and taken away absolutely from the ordinary pursuits of its members. Such a force as the embodied militia is only another kind of standing army, not quite so permanent or convenient as the ordinary kind. A resident force should be really resident; but then to defend all parts of the country it must be found everywhere. Perhaps we do not require in this country that all able-bodied men of serviceable years shall, as in America, be enrolled in some militia or volunteer corps; and we believe that a far less stringent law—perhaps only an enabling law—would be sufficient to garrison the whole country, if that law called forth volunteers, and if there were sufficient elasticity in its provisions to let the volunteers enrol themselves freely, so as to find companions suited to their habits. It is a great point to permit the banding of men whose hours of business or habits of life enable them to agree in arrangements for drill, &c. If there are some gentlemen who shrink from the hard work of soldiers in the Crimea, there are numbers of gentlemen who would gladly undertake even the rougher work of soldiering for the sake of their country, and of the credit to be thus obtained. Invite the formation of free volunteer corps, under regulations to have official approval, and we are sure that many bands would soon exist, equipped with all efficiency that modern improvement can provide. We should probably have gentlemen sportsmen forming corps of riflemen, and appointing the hour of practice at times suited to their own hours of breakfast and dinner; while some of the humbler men, who have practised their weapons in a less lawful way, would probably form companion bands, with costume more humble and economical, with hours of drill suited to their different manners of life. Besides the ordinary individual emulation which would thus be excited, there would be a corporate emulation; and we cannot imagine a more healthy contest than that for superior skill between the armed peasantry of a country and its corps of gentlemen chasseurs.

With so fine a nursery for a military force, we should have the materials for an army of picked men; always the best kind of army. The secondary effects upon the state of both forces, movable and resident, would perhaps be as great as the direct effect. One of the most dashing letters home is written by Mr.

Pennington, a young gentleman who enlisted as a private in the 7th Hussars, which took part in the brilliant charge at Balaklava. Now, once open the promotion from the ranks to commission, by the removal of the reluctant two hundred, and we should have many a gentleman who cannot get his commission by purchase or favour entering the ranks to fight his way to it. Young Pennington became an able soldier in six weeks: it would be the business of gentlemen in the ranks to set examples of zeal, smartness, and high feeling to the "common men" around them.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* has already pointed out the fact, which we have more than once insisted on, that the Drilling Act, which forbids mustering for drill, is a breach of the Bill of Rights, which secures to Englishmen the right of bearing arms. A disarmed people is not a free people. The efforts for meeting the enemy would restore the English people to freedom; would prepare them for recruiting their own forces abroad; and would place us once more in that healthy condition where men fear no enemies, envy no rivals, and do not disdain to be led by the best man among them.

CUBA AND CRONSTADT.

THE "Lone Star" is behind a cloud. The subject of Cuba presents itself under an unwonted obscurity. The reports from all quarters are contradictory with each other, and with the accounts received from the same quarter. Let us look a little into the actual state of things, and we shall not only understand the matter, but see that there is an interesting romance to be read in the contemporary events of that great island at the mouth of the Mississippi. See where it stands! The great river, which is the water-shed of all the middle of North America, pours itself into a marine basin, with Florida on its left hand, Mexico on its right, and with Cuba for an immense breakwater.

Such is the position. The report from Spain is, that the Democratic party is resolved as any other party, to repel the overtures of the United States for a peaceable purchase of Cuba. As at present advised, therefore, we understand that Spain will not yield the island; and it must fall to the United States then, by the chances of war and forcible annexation. America has never yet resorted to forcible annexation. President Pierce, who has put an extinguisher upon the order of the Lone Star, speaks mildly of Cuba, and refers to hopes of purchase; when Spain tells us that those hopes are vain. The great Union, therefore, flags in its Cuban resolutions—that is, flags officially. Yet the Lone Star is not dead. The Southern States are looking to annex Mexico as well as Cuba. "If we obtain Cuba and San Domingo," says the *Southern Cross*, "we could control the productions of the tropics, and with them the commerce of the world, and with them the power of the world. We must ally with Brazil instead of courtly England; occupy Cuba as the key to the West Indies, and place African slavery beyond the reach of fanaticism abroad or at home. With firmness and judgment we can open up the African slave emigration to people the noble region of the tropics." Such ideas are still fermenting in the mind of the Southern States; while the Lone Star, suppressed within the Union, prepares for action outside the border. And because official America falters in grappling with the Cuban question, directly, candidly, and vigorously, there is a chance than an illicit annexation may stain the development of the great Republic with territorial spoliation, and defeat the far-seeing philanthropy of Clay—undoing in Cuba what has been begun in Liberia.

What does Cuba herself say? Nothing very distinctly! Cuba is delighted at present, for the twofold reason that General Concha, a tolerably upright man, as Spaniards go, has been restored to the Government, and because his restoration gives the opportunities for great festivities. The Cubans love amusement; they are an indolent race, and their great purposes end idly. Cuba is a cigar, the purpose of whose existence is to end in smoke. Concha was sent to assuage Spain, by giving genuine effect to the anti-slave-trade treaties with Spain's allies. He has set about his work well—that is, from the Cuban point of view. He has swept away some of the foolish laws of his predecessor, Pezuela.

"There was a recent decree, for instance," says a correspondent in New Orleans, "which enabled the Government officers to go on the plantations, and to carry off all negroes recently smuggled, or supposed to have been smuggled, into the island. This gave rise to great abuse. Such officers appeared suddenly on an estate, had the negroes brought before them, and took away all that did not speak Spanish, declaring them to be 'Bozales' (new negroes from Africa). Now, it is often the case on some estates that negroes never learn Spanish for five, six, or more years, and it has happened that hundreds have been taken away from their lawful owner who had paid for them, thereby causing him a loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars. And such negroes are not better off for that. The officers, and especially a rascally cousin of Pezuela's, Jacobo de Pezuela, often disposed of such negroes again, and the money went into their pocket. At most they are given away as 'emancipados,' when they will be free after a certain number of years if faith is kept with them; but even in such cases much bribery is practised by those who wish to obtain such negroes. This Pezuela was a closet philanthropist, and not fit for his post if he has not, which is not to be believed, shared profits with his cousin, gaining, on the other hand, the flattering acknowledgments of Lord John Russell in Parliament the other day."

Concha is a man who disapproves of "nonsense," either pro-slavery or anti-slavery. He will suppress the importation of slaves in faithful observance of the treaties; but he will not the more disturb people in the possession of slaves; and in a recent decree he has told them so. Pezuela was dangerously, subversively conservative, of high slavery views; Concha trims, and Cuban destinies appear, for the time, to be in repose.

Yet there are signs even within the island that all is not dead although Lopez is; and although the order of the Lone Star seems so. We all remember Lopez—that Cuban who could resist a party of regulars within the island, and live, wandering in the country even after his army had been destroyed. The manner of his death will be remembered, and it has a present interest. In his wanderings, Lopez met a man called Castañeda, who gave him shelter and food, and then shortly afterwards introduced a dozen fellows, who made Lopez prisoner, and delivered him to the Spaniards; and, it will be remembered, he was publicly garrotted three days afterwards. Castañeda had previously been known to Lopez. The man had emigrated from the Canary Islands; he was very poor, used to cry eggs in the street, and he bore a disreputable character. At one time he was accused of pig-stealing, and Lopez, a compatriot, was instrumental in saving him from being sentenced to work in a chain gang. It was thus that Castañeda showed his gratitude. He was, however, well paid for his treachery. The Government, however, gave him grants of land, a dozen or two of emancipados—negroes released from captured vessels, who work out a nominal apprenticeship which never expires; was appointed a Captain in the army, was admitted to kiss the royal hands in a visit to Spain; and was lately promoted by Concha. He was a cunning dog, that Castañeda; for on his visit to Spain, when he had the beatification of kissing the royal hand, he gave one of the royal children a dollar! Think of a free benevolence, to that

amount, received by a Spanish prince! Castañeda was a man of intelligent investment, and yet he was not appreciated everywhere. The evening of the 12th of October last was unwholesome for him. He was enjoying himself at a café at billiards; the room was full of people, and there were numbers also on the verandahs outside. The house is situated in one of the most frequented thoroughfares in the town of Havana. Castañeda was chalking his cue, a sharp explosion was heard, and he fell. A bullet had pierced his head behind the ear; he uttered neither word nor groan; those who stooped to lift him up found he was dead. The place, we have said, was crowded; but not a soul professed to have seen, to know, or to have followed with even eyesight the assassin. One traitor betrayed Lopez to death wandering in the open island, and that one traitor found that he could not be safe in the most crowded coffee-house of Havana.

The Cuban question seems to be in abeyance just at present; it is perhaps just the turn of the ebb and flood tide, and the island does not move in its destined course up the Mississippi. Opposing influences seem for the moment to be equally balanced; but there is a Power which might take advantage of the present state of things, and make the Republic a present of the island of which the chief enemies of that Power gratuitously and needlessly desire to debar the Republic. Attacked in Cronstadt, Russia may retaliate in Cuba, and avenge in the Gulf of Mexico the injuries sustained in the Gulf of Bothnia.

Open Council.

[IN THIS DEPARTMENT, AS ALL OPINIONS, HOWEVER EXTREME, ARE ALLOWED AS REPRESENTING THE OPINION OF SOMEBODY, THE WRITER IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NONE.]

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much prided by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If, then, it be profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write.—MILTON

LORD PALMERSTON'S PROTÉGÉ IN HAMBURG.

(To the Editor of the "Leader.")

Hamburg, Dec. 23, 1854.

SIR,—Perhaps it may be news to some of your readers that every Englishman arriving at the so-called "Free city of Hamburg" has to undergo a special examination before the British consul to "get permission to live" in Hamburg or Altona! To prove how completely this locality is under Russia's sinister influence, I may mention that an Englishman (from Newcastle), who has been in the coal trade near Hamburg for eighteen years, told me that "he did not dare to subscribe to the Patriotic Fund for fear of giving offence;" and to show that patriotism is not in the ascendant among the resident English here, the munificent sum of 5*l.* was subscribed by the British consul to the Patriotic Fund. I should premise that Colonel Hodge's salary is upwards of 1500*l.* per annum, and that he is an Irishman, and owes his appointment to Lord Palmerston.

None but those who have resided in North Germany can be aware of the intense (although somewhat dissembled) Russian feeling that prevails. Only the other day I was rudely accosted by a Dane or German, who reproached me as an Englishman—as one of that nation who had "entered the House of Russia!"

Would it be safe (to take no other objection to the Enlistment Bill) to take men from such a neighbourhood as this? Would there not be a reasonable prospect of their deserting to the enemy? Rely on it our arch-enemy, the hypocritical Czar, would desire no more favourable measure than the establishment in England of a foreign band of mercenaries. The autocrat "has his foot" in every northern Court, and we have helped to foster a system by which Russia has made them his vassals. Foreign mercenaries, if not Russian legions, can only be reasonably expected in this part of Germany, where even her Majesty's representative is so lukewarm in the deadly struggle now being fought out of civilisation versus barbarism.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
MATTHEW HENRY FEILDE.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

THE January number of the *Westminster Review* ought to make the parliamentary recess less tedious to all who, being interested in the "great questions of the day," miss the excitement of the debates—for we do not recollect ever having seen a number of a *Review* so full of information and discussion bearing on current topics. Of the seven set articles, which, together with the usual classified survey of Contemporary Literature at the end, compose the entire number, five at least are articles directly bearing on questions of the day; and of these, no fewer than four are devoted to subjects of foreign politics. Here, then, is ample matter for those whom the lighter and less profound discussions in the newspapers do not satisfy—ample matter, too, to be worked up into newspaper articles for a good while to come. The information supplied by the *Review* will bear this, for it is fresh, substantial, and closely-packed; while the views put forward by the writers, along with the information, are put forward decisively, and in a manner to command attention even where they provoke controversy.

The opening article is one on "The Anglo-French Alliance," written in a light, vivid style, but with much strength and sense. The author sketches the history of the mutual feelings and relations of France and England from the time of JULIUS CÆSAR onwards to our present alliance, which he then considers more particularly in various lights. There is nothing of the usual sycophancy to LOUIS NAPOLEON; on the contrary, some sharp words are said to him and of him: at the same time full justice is done to his conduct during the present European crisis, and there is nothing of mere tirade against him. The writer concludes by pointing out increased commercial intercourse—and, as a means to this, the abolition of the duties on French wines, &c., on our part, and of the passport system on the part of the French—as the true way of cementing the alliance, and making it permanent. The following is an important passage:

The two peoples are tending together towards a grand future, on which the rising national hope is shining gloriously; but between the travelling hosts there is a gulf—of which some people now think "the less said the better." In us, however, surveying and exhibiting the conditions and tendencies of the age, it would be an act of unfaithfulness to ignore that chasm, and to pretend that it is just the same thing whether the two parties pay mutual courtesies across it or travel side by side. The gulf of the salt deep has been conquered. Our electric wires run under it, and our navies ride above it. But the gulf which separates the sympathies and action of a free and enslaved nation has neither bottom nor surface, and is absolutely impassable. If the French people were to be regarded as really and hopelessly subjected to the despotism of an absolute ruler, there would be no possibility of an alliance with us like that of which we have been treating. But they and we know that they are not permanently subjected to a despotism. The great and fearful question is whether their emperor knows this too, and frames his intentions accordingly. If he believes that he is doing well to subject the French nation to an iron control for a time, on account of former political failures, and (aware how skilful and noble those people are in defying and punishing tyranny) purposes to convert their bondage into freedom by gradual emancipation, we can only say that the presumption that he is able to achieve this mighty yet delicate transformation implies a consciousness of possessing an amount of wisdom, as well as of power, which no precedent justifies us in ascribing to him, and that until the dangerous experiment shall have been actually conducted to a successful issue, the Anglo-French alliance has after all but a precarious tenure. We will do all in our power to preserve it, in hope of better days for our neighbours; but it would be rank unfaithfulness to them, and treason to the great cause which unites us, to pretend that any alliance between a free and a fettered nation can be secure. Certain as Englishmen feel that a contest cannot be far off between the views of the ruler of France and the will of its people—they ask, "With which party is our alliance when it ceases to be practicable with both?" There is no doubt about the answer. Our alliance is with the people:—with their emperor as long as he and the people are of one accord—after that, with the people.

The second article, which is the only strictly literary article in the number, is a pleasant one on a capital subject—"Ballads of the People"—with numerous specimens interspersed. This is followed by an extremely valuable paper on "Prussia and the Prussian Policy," the information in which, relative to the social and political state of Prussia, is of a kind not to be procured in ordinary compilations, and worthy of being well weighed. Here is an interesting passage:—

Owing to a different application of the same term, English readers are easily misled by the newspaper reports from Berlin. With us, "cabinet" means the ministry; in Prussia, it means the private secretaries of the king and their staff. These gentlemen, the most notorious of them General von Gerlach (brother to the judge Gerlach), and Mr. Niebuhr, son—we are sorry to record it—of the historian, are entirely in the Russian interest, and in constant communication with Baron Budberg, the Russian ambassador. They constitute a second government. The whole of the royal household and the visitors usually received at court, except Alexander von Humboldt, who keeps aloof from politics, are of the same disposition. The most prominent partisan of Russia, by his social position, is a man who betrayed last year the secret plan for the mobilisation of the Prussian army to the Czar, and would have been hanged, but that he happened to be the brother of the king—viz., Prince Charles.

The writer thus appreciates the KING OF PRUSSIA'S position with reference to the treaty of the two Western Powers with Austria, agreed to on the 2nd of December:—

Being ignorant of the text of that treaty, to which, moreover, secret articles are said to be annexed, we can define the position of Prussia only hypothetically. At all events, she has lost the position and prestige of a great Power, and is allowed only to give in her adherence to decisive acts like Bavaria and Lichtenstein. If she joins, her action will entirely depend upon the will of Austria—just the thing the king dreads most, next to revolution—and her voice will be excluded from a future settlement. If she refuses, she will before long, by the force of events, be thrown into the arms of

Russia. Well may Frederic William hesitate to take his choice. If he sends his army against the Czar, the officers will court defeat, precisely as the Piedmontese officers did at Novara. If he attacks the French, one single proclamation of the Western Powers, backed by actual proofs of good faith—better faith than the struggling nationalities have experienced from the hands of England and France—would blow the thirty tyrants of Germany to the winds.

The next article forms in itself a feature of interest in the present *Westminster*, inasmuch as it is a contribution from the pen of Mr. CARLYLE—from whom the public has had so little since he embarked on that "Life of Frederick the Great," for which we are all longing. The present article, entitled "The Prinzenraub; a Glimpse of Saxon History," is evidently a little bit of the material collected for "Frederick" thrown off in an independent form, as possessing episodic interest, and not available, except by way of mere allusion, in the great work. It is, in fact, a kind of genealogy of the Saxon line of princes, beginning with the Elector FREDERICK *der Streitbare* (that is, the "Prompt to Fight"), in 1423, and ending with our Queen's Consort, Prince ALBERT. The incident from which the article derives its name is the stealing or kidnapping of the two young princes, ERNST and ALBERT—the sons of the Saxon Elector FREDERICK the PACIFIC, who was the son of *der Streitbare*—by a certain lawless KUNZ VON KAUFUNGEN, in the year 1455. This incident is most graphically related; after which Mr. CARLYLE traces the lines of German princes that have sprung from the two princes so kidnapped, touching here and there a fact or a name of special historic interest, and making it start out most vividly to the fancy. At last, pursuing one of the ramifications, he reaches the Saxe-Coburg line, and Prince ALBERT. The whole article will, of course, be eagerly read; but, till it is in our readers' hands, they may be glad to have the following as a foretaste—the more so, as it shows with what kind of eye Mr. CARLYLE regards the highest personages in the realm:

Another individual of the Ernestine Line, surely notable to Englishmen, and much to be distinguished amid that imbroglia of little Dukes, is the "Prinz ALBRECHT Franz August Karl Emanuel von Sachsen-Coburg-Gotha," whom we call, in briefer English, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg, actual Prince Consort of these happy realms. He also is a late, very late, grandson of that little stolen Ernst, concerning whom both English history and English prophecy might say something—but not conveniently in this place. By the generality of thinking Englishmen he is regarded as a man of solid sense and worth, seemingly of superior talent, placed in circumstances beyond measure singular—very complicated circumstances—and which do not promise to grow less so, but the contrary; for the horologe of Time goes inexorably on, and the Sick Ages ripen (with terrible rapidity at present) towards—who will tell us what? The human wisdom of this Prince, whatever share of it he has, may one day be unspeakably important to mankind!—But enough, enough. We will here subjoin his pedigree at least, which is a very innocent document, riddled from the big historical cinderheaps, and may be comfortable to some persons.

Here follows a short genealogical table, connecting Prince ALBERT with personages named in the earlier part of the article.

So that the young gentleman who will one day (it is hoped, but not till after many years) be King of England, is visibly, as we count, thirteenth in direct descent from that little boy Ernst, whom Kunz von Kaufungen stole. Ernst's generation and twelve others have blossomed out and grown big, and have faded and been blown away; and in these 400 years, since Kunz did his feat, we have arrived so far. And that is the last "pearl, or odd button," we will string on that transaction.

The article entitled "Poland: her History and Prospects," is in part a summary of Polish history, with disquisitions on points connected therewith, and, in part, a discussion of the question of the Restoration of Poland, now, as the writer says, "in the foreground of European politics." It is followed by an article on "Cambridge University Reform;" and it again by an article on "Austria in the Principalities," in which the policy which would permit Austria, for mere strategic considerations, to hold these important provinces, is strenuously argued against. The remainder of the number, as we have said, consists of notices of recent books, classified, according to the admirable plan adopted by the Editor, under the distinct heads of *Theology and Philosophy, Politics and Education, Science, Classics and Philology, History, Biography and Travels, Belles Lettres, and Art*.

For some weeks there has been going about a story of the discovery in Paris of an inedited manuscript novel, by Sir WALTER SCOTT, which the fortunate proprietor was busy translating into French for immediate publication. The story comes to us in a complete shape in an article by M. PHILARETE CHARLES—the chief Parisian authority on subjects of English literature—published in the *Journal des Débats* of Wednesday last. It seems that in a previous article in the same paper, on the 15th of this month, M. PHILARETE CHARLES commented on the alleged discovery, and called on M. DE SAINT-MAURICE CABANY, the proprietor of the manuscript, to publish the exact text of a letter purporting to be written by Sir WALTER SCOTT, and constituting the sole external proof of the authenticity of the manuscript. M. CABANY had at that time published only a translation of the letter, which M. CHARLES had not found satisfactory. The result has been that M. CABANY has addressed a long letter to M. CHARLES, containing a copy of the original letter, and detailing other circumstances relating to the manuscript. From this letter, and the remarks upon it made by M. CHARLES, we are able to piece the story together as follows:—

In the year 1826 Sir WALTER SCOTT was in Paris, collecting materials for his *History of Napoleon*. He was then in the midst of the pecuniary embarrassments resulting from the sudden crash of his fortunes. His daughter, ANNE SCOTT, was with him. To her there came one day a certain friend of the family, named Mr. WILLIAM SPENCER, apparently a Scotchman, with a most harassing story of a moromania; or, in Scottish phrase, "daft man," whom he had fallen in with in Paris, whose craze consisted in a passion for

obtaining possession of some manuscript or manuscripts of SCOTT. This poor wretch was a German—"a race liable," says M. CHARLES, "to such æsthetic nostalgias;" he would neither eat nor drink, and was fast fading into a skeleton. No time was to be lost. "Women," says M. CHARLES, "are always affected by passions which bring their subjects to death's door." It so chanced that Miss ANNE SCOTT was in possession of a manuscript of her father's, upon which she had laid her hands some time before, and which she kept among her private treasures. It was a novel entitled *Moredun*. To save the "daft" German's life, she resolved to give him the manuscript, if she could get her father's consent. This was rather difficult, Sir WALTER being then, says M. CHARLES, "bound by agreements which prohibited him from disposing of any manuscript to any person whatever." Moreover, shrewd and cautious Scotchman as he was, he half suspected the story of the "daft" German, and saw the possibility of getting into a law-suit by his benevolence, if he gave away the manuscript. So he managed the thing by simply allowing his daughter, as a father whom she consulted in the matter, to dispose of what was her own property—he being nowise concerned as the proprietor of the MS.; and also by writing to Mr. WILLIAM SPENCER the following letter, cautiously signed only with his initials, and addressed to Mr. SPENCER also by his initials:—

Paris, November 4, 1826.

My dear W—S—, I am constrained to make of this note a letter of initials, for I am not quite satisfied with myself in agreeing to write it, and there is no saying into whose hands it may fall.

The story which Anne has told me about your daft friend, the foreigner monomaniac, is as clearly the case of a man who requires to be cognosed as I ever met with; but as it appears to me that she has taken it up most ridiculously to heart, we have brought our discussion of it to a conclusion by my consenting to her doing what you could not be told of until she had received the permission of papa.

She has possessed herself for a long time past of a tale which I had at one time the intention of making the first of a series of such things, drawn from the history of Scotland, a notion which I afterwards gave up. For Anne, however, that story has ever possessed a great charm; and I allowed her to keep it, because I was under the impression that a mere story, which offers no particular merits but those of events and a plot, would not appear advantageously amongst works which had the higher object of painting character. That would be to take a step backwards, which would never do. Besides, as far as I can recollect, there are a great many anachronisms and freedoms used with persons and places which are not in keeping with the character of historian, to which I now aspire.

I consider, then, that in authorising my daughter to give you that work as a panacea for the imaginary ills of a foreign monomaniac, I only permit a change of proprietorship. At the same time, in allowing Anne to make a present to you of what is but a trifle after all, I must make a most serious stipulation regarding it; for I tell you candidly that I believe W—S— himself to be the real *malade imaginaire*. That stipulation is, that if at any time you take the fancy of publishing that tale, you will do so with the initials only, and that you will do all that you can in fairness do to countenance the idea that it is a bairn of your ain.

I wish I could do something for you personally of some less doubtful character than of humouring the caprice of a daft man; but you know how I am placed at present. Believe, however, that you have no more sincere friend than W. S.

This letter, with the manuscript romance of *Moredun*, we are to understand, remained in possession of the "daft" German, or his substitute, till his death, when it was acquired, at a sale of his effects, by the father of its present proprietor. This gentleman did not know its value; and it was reserved for his son, who found it in a mahogany box, to identify it as a novel by the author of *Waverley*. (We must here state that we have not before us M. CABANY's original pamphlet, giving an account of the history of the MS. from the time when it was in the possession of the "daft" German till it came into his own hands, and that we supply the gap from more vague information which has reached us.) M. CABANY is now translating the novel, which is to appear in three volumes, divided, in all, into twenty-five chapters. It is not, he begs to inform the public and M. CHARLES, such a mere trifle as might be inferred from the author's facility in parting with it, and from his manner of speaking of it in his letter. On the contrary, the first chapters of *Moredun* have been read in the original by several competent Englishmen, all of whom have pronounced it æsthetic, and interesting in the highest degree, and infinitely more dramatic than any of the romances published by SCOTT while alive. So says M. CABANY in his letter to M. CHARLES, dated from 91, Boulevard Beaumarchais: and M. CHARLES hastens to say that he does not discredit the authenticity of the work, and is quite ready to read it, and to find it as excellent as M. CABANY declares it to be.

Such is the strange story—which, certainly, in its present shape, and at this distance from the "Boulevard Beaumarchais," looks apocryphal enough. The "W. S." letter, so far as it can be judged of in print, and by those who know nothing of M. CABANY, might very well be a concoction; and much more evidence than that will be required before scepticism will be convinced. The novel itself, published in English, will supply the internal evidence; and the external evidence will be found in the handwriting of the letter and the MS., and in the consistency of the story with the facts of Sir WALTER's life about the year 1826, as told by LOCKHART. Two things occur to us: the one, that as in 1826 Sir WALTER had not yet acknowledged the paternity of the *Waverley* Novels, there is a kind of inconsistency between this fact and the language of the alleged letter to W. S. in Paris; the other, that seeing that in 1826, Sir WALTER was working like a Hercules to make money to retrieve his ruined fortunes, it is not the most credible thing in the world that he would give away a manuscript which, however dissatisfied he might have been with it, would have been worth to him two or three thousand pounds, for the purpose of saving a "daft" German's life. But we

shall be glad to see the novel, and to pronounce on the evidence when it is complete.

Our contemporary, the *Athenæum*, has called attention to the fact that the colony of the Cape of Good Hope has just passed through both of its legislative houses a bill, which, if sanctioned by the Home Government, would deprive British authors of all copyright in that colony, and render piracy in literary works the rule there as it is in America. Our contemporary anticipates that the bill will be innocuous, inasmuch as it cannot possibly receive the royal assent; but justly regrets that the first session of the colony's legislature under the new constitution should have been disgraced by the introduction of such a bill.

MESSES. LONGMAN announce as all but ready *A Month in the Camp before Sebastopol*, by a Non-combatant. Rumour assigns the book to Mr. LAYARD or Mr. KINGLAKE, the author of *Eothen*; but we have reason to believe that neither is the author, and that the "non-combatant" is a gentleman not so well known to fame—Mr. BUSHBY, of the English bar. Mr. KINGLAKE is at present ill in the west of England, suffering from the effects of fever in the Crimea. A volume of *Sonnets on the War*, by ALEXANDER SMITH and Mr. SYDNEY YENDYS, whom a common residence in Edinburgh has made partners on this occasion, is to be published in a day or two by Mr. BOGUE, and will probably contain *real* poetry on the events of the Crimea. The first number of the *Artist*, a new weekly journal, price sixpence, to be devoted to the Fine Arts, is to appear next Saturday; and last Saturday saw the appearance of the first number of a new three-penny newspaper, the *Scottish Tribune*, published in Edinburgh, and showing, both in its external getting up and in the ability and vigour with which it is written and edited, what a three-penny paper might be.

The only magazines for the new year which we have yet received are our old friends *Fraser*, and the *Dublin University*, and the first number of the *Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal*, to be published quarterly. The latter professes the intention of exhibiting a view of the progressive discoveries and improvements in science and art—scarcely novel features—but the names of ANDERSON, JARDINE, and BALFOUR on the cover as editors will arrest attention.

The *Dublin University Magazine* seems to have lost one good feature—the poetic. There is certainly some poetry, but part is anonymous—which is the greatest fault that poetry can present—and the remainder has only an unknown name to recommend it. "Snow-Flakes" are elegant, graceful and poetic sketches in prose, and the article on "Educational Experiments in Ireland" is valuable.

Fraser commences with a good article on the state and prospects of Spain. There is a second "Batch of Danish Ballads," and a very pleasant paper on a not very original subject—Paris!—by the very pleasant author of *The Upper Ten Thousand*. Nearly all the remainder of the number is about the war—in the shape of direct disquisition, or stirring stories.

We are requested to call the attention of our readers to the first of Mr. OWEN's meetings, to be held on New Year's evening, in St. Martin's Hall. The advertisement promises nothing less than the commencement of the Millennium this year (1855.) This meeting is a necessary preliminary step to the full disclosure of the means for its attainment, which disclosure is to be made at a second meeting to be held on the 14th May next. Large paintings, explanatory of Mr. OWEN's views, will be exhibited and explained by himself; Mr. PEMBERTON, author of the "Happy Colony," &c.; and by Mr. ATKINS, Civil Engineer from Oxford.

We see with regret that M. KOESUTH, who does not seem yet to have acquired the complete "tact" of our customs, has engaged to write weekly political articles for one of our sporting newspapers. KOESUTH was a great journalist in his own country, and there is no reason why, in the honest independence of his exile, he should not employ his genius here in advocating his views through the press regularly and professionally. But there is always a choice of methods; and it would have been better had he resolved to publish a weekly pamphlet in his own name. We are a prejudiced people; and if LOUIS NAPOLEON himself were to be an exile again, and to edit *Bell's Life*, he would lose caste with many who now admire him.

CHARLES RANDOM.

Charles Random; or, Lunatics at Large. By Thomas White. Longman and Co. This is essentially an odd book. Mr. White makes his hero start autobiographically with the notion that all lovers are "lunatics at large"—Mr. Charles Random is a lover—consequently Mr. Charles Random acts (and, we must add, writes occasionally too) like a "lunatic at large." He is the younger son of a baronet, tries the army, sells out from want of interest, and enters the Church as a curate with a stipend of fifty pounds a year. In the course of his clerical labours among the poorer parishioners he meets with a charming and charitable young lady, a local teacher of music, much calumniated in the neighbourhood—falls in love with her, and offers her marriage on the spot, without waiting to see her a second time. The offer is not positively accepted, because the young lady is honourable and disinterested, as well as charming. But Mr. Random has other matrimonial chances to console him. He makes the acquaintance of a great lord in the neighbourhood, and inspires the nobleman's sister, and the nobleman's daughter, respectively, with secret longings to be married to him. Soon

after, he and the charming singer are calumniated for their flirtation: the gentleman falls dangerously ill: the lady retreats to London. On his recovery, one of Mr. Random's first acts is to knock down a disgraceful officer for abusing the clergy—a duel is arranged to follow—our fighting parson crosses the water to have a comfortable shot at his man—said man happens to be in the steamer—said steamer happens to be wrecked. Mr. Random is saved, and sees his opponent apparently swept away to destruction by a wave. He next goes to London, meets with the irresistible singer, renews flirtations, longs to marry her more than ever. But she has heard reports about his proceedings with the great lord's daughter, and is jealous. A quarrel follows, and the next day Mr. Random goes to Waterloo Bridge, to establish his lunacy beyond all possibility of doubt, by committing suicide. The angry lady of his love happens (!!) to pass just in time to pull him off the parapet—a reconciliation follows—and Mr. Random, happy and hopeful at last, goes down to his father's country seat to pay a little filial visit. Here he meets with a woman whom he had seduced in his wild and wicked youth, before he went to the wars. Shocked at the state of degradation in which he finds her, he determines to rescue her from a drunken husband to whom she has been sacrificed. He is discovered in the performance of this meritorious act of atonement; is misjudged and rejected again by the charming singer; and has nothing else left for it but to renew flirtation—this time with the great lord's sister—a woman of mature years, but possessed of a fortune, and interest enough to get him a bishopric. So the first volume—positively the first only—ends!

We have no room to follow in any detail the series of daring absurdities which fill the second and third volumes of this novel, and which it would be an abuse of terms to call a "plot." How Mr. Random comes to found an institution for protecting and reclaiming "unfortunate women"—how he jilts the lord's sister and marries the lord's daughter—how she gets divorced from him, how he gets tried for murder, and how he finally succeeds to his father's estate and marries his first love, the charming singer—our readers must find out for themselves. We have said quite enough already to show that the incidents in this very eccentric book are brought, or rather flung, together in flat defiance of rules and probabilities. In the same way, the characters run wild through the story. Anything like dramatic development or the discipline of Art is unknown to them. They burst upon us on a sudden, dash through a scene or two, and, before we have time to know what they are really like, disappear again, without giving us the remotest notion whether we are to bid them good-bye for ever, or whether we are likely to meet with them again in the next chapter.

It may be asked of us, why give a separate notice to such a book as this? We answer, because it is easy to discern, amid the wildness and wantonness, the flash and dazzle of *Charles Random*, some steady, though scattered gleams of sense, talent, and rare observation of nature. With all its faults, with all its sins against Taste and against Art, this book is not a conventional book (which is one great recommendation in our eyes); and, moreover, it gives promise for the future of far better things (another decided recommendation with us), if Mr. White will only do himself justice. We will subjoin one extract, showing as few of Mr. White's faults and as many of his merits as possible. Very uncommon knowledge of female human nature, and very uncommon clearness and vigour of writing, distinguish this

SCENE WITH A WOMAN IN A PASSION.

"Let me come to-morrow, Kate," said I, sitting down beside her on the sofa.

"Remain where you are."

"You do forgive me?" I asked, taking her hand.

The reply was a box on the ears, given with such force, as to bring the tears into my eyes.

I sat silent under this gentle rebuke, and after some time she spoke, in sharp, short sentences, accompanied by vicious kicks aimed at her poor dog, who bore them like a spaniel, licking his mouth whenever he caught it there, and gently wagging his tail when some other member suffered.

"Now, I suppose I'm to confess—to acknowledge my weakness and stupidity—I must promise—I must beg—and you meanwhile will laugh at my imbecility."

"Dearest Kate, don't talk in this manner. I only wish you to explain—"

"No, of course not; you only wish me to explain, to account for my actions and feelings, and finally promise to make everything give way to you. But then you have a perfect right to make these demands. I am your slave, and must have no will of my own."

"Upon my word, Kate, I can't talk to you while you are in this strange temper."

"To be sure not; a man who attempts suicide, because a poor girl does not wish to be dragged into an insane marriage, has just cause to complain of the bad humour of other people; that is perfectly fair, and quite like the men."

I could not reply, so I picked up the dog, who had been turned completely over by the last *coup de pied*, and amused myself with fondling him. I could see that she did not know how to support the silence that ensued, and waited anxiously till some remark of mine should give her another opportunity of having a shot at me; but I kept silence.

"Put that dirty beast down," said she at length. "Down!" But as it did not move, she seized it by the back of its neck and threw it into the passage, determined that nothing should supply the place of her conversation.

"Have you nothing to say, sir," came out at last.

"I am afraid of you, Kate," said I, gently taking her hand, which, after a slight effort to release, she allowed to remain in mine. "I never saw you like this before; I thought you the most amiable of your sex."

"Then, now, you see I am not."

"Well, we're none of us perfect angels, and without some slight leaven of malice, you would be much too good for this sinful world."

"Very fine indeed, and quite original. Go on."

"I will, if you'll promise not to box my ears." She bit her lip, but made no reply, and I proceeded—"I am hopelessly in love with you, Kate; will you, can you, so far overcome your repugnance as to marry me?"

"I've no choice; I must either do that, or have your death laid at my door. It would be so shocking for a clergyman, a teacher of mankind, one of the lights of the world, to drown himself, because a poor, low-bred girl would not marry him."

"There is no fear of my renewing the attempt, Kate; if you really object to our union, say so. I do not wish to sacrifice you to my unfortunate passion."

"What generous creatures men are! I am so foolish as to compromise my reputation by permitting you to remain in my house, and now you wish to retract your offer of marriage."

"Confound it, Kate, this is past endurance. Had I known your temper earlier, the offer would never have been made."

"You were too prudent, you see, to wait. I think I had known you six hours when you first offered me marriage."

"I was a great fool, and I am not much wiser at the present time, in rushing with open eyes into certain misery; but you have my promise, and that must bind me."

"Oh! you have never promised in writing, nor before witnesses, so that you are quite free to desert me."

"Madam, my promise is sacred, however unwisely, or unfortunately, it has been given: it rests with you."

The reader must not take my words as a correct index of my feelings; though, I think, I played my part to admiration, exhibiting every appearance of regret and displeasure. I was quite charmed with the piquancy of her ill-temper. To my view she exhibited herself in a new, but equally charming light; even her frown appeared strikingly handsome, and her curled lip was quite enchanting. I was even mad enough to fancy that such *fracas* as these would be quite delightful after marriage, when I should no longer fear her loss; that it would be pleasant to suffer ill-treatment at the hands of this sweet girl, until my suffering should make her ashamed of her cruelty, and she would renew her love with increased demonstrations of tenderness. I had not then learnt that while the quarrels of lovers are the renewal of love, the quarrels of matrimony are the cradle of disgust.

Kate, however, was now plainly alarmed, and her tone was altered to the most dulcet softness, when she answered,

"I should accept you, if I thought I could make you happy."

I was not generous enough to forgive her yet, and replied with frigid politeness, "Favour me with your determination to-morrow. I shall not trespass further upon your hospitality to-night," taking up my hat as if about to depart.

"Don't go, Charley."

There was no resisting this appeal.

The man who could write this scene could write a good novel if he would take the proper pains. If Mr. White will only discipline his mind in the first place, and his pen in the second—if he will think more of writing for truth's sake, and less of writing for effect's sake—if, in one word, he will work conscientiously at his second book, instead of playing carelessly over it, as he has played over the first—he may rest assured of being able to produce a novel which will deserve and receive our hearty welcome. As it is, what little he has done is principally valuable, because it shows how much he may do.

CRITICAL MISCELLANIES.

Miscellanies: Critical, Imaginative, and Juridical. By Samuel Warren.

Blackwood.

In one of Captain Cook's *Voyages* there is an account of some transactions of a commercial character with the natives of some island in the Pacific. As is usual in such cases, civilisation endeavoured to cheat savagery; and savagery also sought to return the compliment. All manner of articles which the savage esteemed of no value, the civilised white would give beads and buttons for; beads and buttons being to the savage as pearls of incalculable price. Now it chanced that one savage was anxious to procure a share of these valuables, but had nothing to offer in barter; after a little reflection the savage took a stick, placed on the end of it a bit of dirt, and offered it at the boat's side as the commodity he was prepared to do business in. The force of barter could not go so far as that: the whites shook their heads at the astonished savage, who retired, marvelling much, in his hazy intelligence, why the bartering strangers cheerfully accepted his neighbour's rubbish, and declined his dirt. This little episode has been recalled to our memory by a perusal of these volumes. It is only on the principle that led to our Pacific friend's offer of exchange, that we can account for Mr. Warren doing himself the injustice to offer these volumes to the public. The last few years have been characterised by a very extensive collection of miscellanies, and their republication in various forms; and as the works so collected have for the most part been worth republication, they have been lauded by critics, and bought by the public. Mr. Warren could not remain quiet and see all this going on, without a desire to have his share; and, accordingly, after a little musing, he has darted to the back numbers of *Blackwood*, flung together a few old articles into two volumes, and offers them to the world. We may be as foolish as Cook's men appeared to the savages, but our folly does not go quite this length; and as critics, we must tell Mr. Warren that we do not barter our praise; and as prudent men, that we do not barter our money in exchange for a commodity like this. We believe we speak the truth when we say that the bulk of these articles would never have appeared at first, had they proceeded from a less-known pen; and we are certain that we are correct in affirming that they have no claim beyond the evanescent notoriety that attaches to the bulk of periodical literature. This is spoken as relates to the critical portion of these volumes; half of the articles are juridical, and may have some purely legal value undiscoverable by us, in which case they should have been buried in rough calf by a law-publisher. As regards the *imaginative*, there is no such thing to be found, except on the title-page.

The sin of these volumes is that they are utterly commonplace. Commonplace in thought and in language: and in this fact lies the great secret of the popularity of writers like Alison and Warren. They flatter the grand commonplace middle-and-upper-class society, that has money in its pockets, and is eminently respectable; and they never offend it. When M. Jourdain is told that he has been speaking prose all his life, a kind of exultation breaks from him at the wondrous discovery; and in like manner, where a commonplace thought is dressed in pompous words and puffed as genius, the commonplace man, when he reads it and finds that he has been thinking such thoughts for years and never before knew they were genius, feels naturally delighted and swells the applause to his utmost, feeling that exactly in proportion as the writer is celebrated he is advanced also in his own esteem. For a quick and broad success in literature there is no gift like mediocrity. Fond mothers pray that dear Alphonso may be a genius; but if the fond mother mean that he may be prosperous and famous among his contemporaries, and courted among the unmistakably respectable (and this is really a woman's only idea of literary fame), she should pray that he may be radically and prolifically mediocre. Such has been the good fortune of Tupper, and—his *Proverbial Platitudes* are at one-knows-not-what edition—such also the lucky fate of the Recorder of Hull, and—hence these volumes.

W. H. Channing is reported to have said of his uncle, the celebrated Doctor Channing, that he was a Pot-Plato—not the original attic marble, but a copy in pot. One may forgive the nepotial irreverence for the sake of the wit; and, plagiarising W. H. Channing, we may say that Samuel Warren is a Pot-Alison. The two Hercules Pillars of Blackwood are wonderfully alike; but Alison is on a larger and grander scale than Warren, and is fully entitled to precedence as the original of their peculiar order of excellence. Each has the same wordy style. Each alike mistakes bombast for eloquence. Each has the same steadfast faith in the miraculous power of a metaphor to metamorphose a dull sentence into a galaxy of wit. Each is a little suspicious of anything with real stalwart life in it; and each, to borrow Disraeli's admirable sarcasm, constantly writes to show that Providence is ever on the side of the Tories. Carlyle is stated to have said of Macaulay, that his idea of God is as of a kind of higher Whig government; and in like manner, one might much more justly say of Warren, that his idea of God was a sublime Pitt; and of the Day of Judgment, a judgment scene in the High Court of Chancery, with everybody in full wigs and robes, *plus wings*. The very lowest phase of human enthusiasm is when admiration is excited by clothes—and in this stage Warren is hopelessly fixed. The aspect of the Monmouth Assize is "a solemn scene;"—and why? Simply because three judges sit in "imposing scarlet and ermine." The scene at a condemned sermon is "striking," because the Rev. Dr. Cotton is picturesquely venerable "in full canonicals." At the trial of Lord Cardigan the "scene" is "imposing" because the Lords wear "their full robes, and the Knights the collars of their respective orders." And when the ladies fill the Peeresses' Gallery the "scene" becomes one "of great solemnity and magnificence." Most impetuous youths of eighteen have this clothes-worship, but it usually leaves them by twenty-one. But to the soul of Warren the moment never appears to have come when the eye sees through all outer adornment, sheer to the essence of things, and men appear not what they are dressed in, but what they really are.

Literature may be roughly divided into two great divisions—that which merely attempts to amuse, and that which attempts to teach. There is no doubt that Mr. Warren intends these volumes to come under the latter head, and in that case this clothes-worship is a fatal sin. Consider for a moment how many aspects has blindness for the substance of things. What is conventional morality—the morality that satisfies society, and which is pure in daylight, and sins only in the dark—but the mere outward clothes of morality? the show, not the reality. And yet beyond this conventional morality, Mr. Warren appears to have no idea. We see this in the manner he handles the celebrated case of the barrister Phillips, in his defence of Courvoisier (to which we shall allude more fully ere leaving the subject); in that case a precedent was established, emperilling human morality and the foundations of civilised society at their very bases; and Mr. Warren is blind to this, and when he has shown that Phillips was professionally correct, and his conduct was approved by Baron Parke, he thinks himself justified in acquitting Phillips of all blame, and charging the *Examiner* with a breach of the ninth commandment. We see it in his cure for duelling, viz., hanging the conqueror, never seeing that we have duels, or should have them if the law did not already punish the dueller, simply because there is inadequate moral law in England, and because there is no justice for a man who has his wife corrupted, his sister seduced, his mother insulted, or his honour wronged, unless he can prove a monetary loss, and has a fair amount of money to spare. And beyond a conventional religion there is no trace here of Mr. Warren having even a glimpse. We do not say that J. W. Smith, Sir W. Follett, the Duke of Marlborough, &c., were not religious, but we do say that Mr. Warren's evidence to that effect is inconclusive, and that it proves nothing beyond that they attended church, or had an admiration for Paley, or took the sacrament before a battle, or when dying. But the conventionality of Mr. Warren is most apparent in his Essay on the *Plurality of Worlds*. A more lame or incompetent handling of this question in its religious aspects it is impossible to conceive. Mere twaddle and empty reassertion of orthodox doctrines he regards as irrefutable logic; and when a real strong argument appears, he seems to conceive he has sufficiently disproved it by calling in the wrath of outraged conventionality against the honest thinker.

The assertion by Thomas Paine, that the *plurality of worlds* to his mind demolishes Christianity, Warren simply dismisses, by calling it "impious drivel." Now, Paine's writing is anything but drivel, and no one should dare to call a sincere doubt impiety, especially when its logical value is not quite nothing. Again, he calls the *Vestiges* "a wild work of an infidel tendency." Now, it would be as absurd to call some of Mr. Warren's most stilted fustian "eloquence," as it is to call the *Vestiges* "wild." If ever there was a calm, clear, subdued book, the *Vestiges* is it; and as to its infidelity, may we ask Mr. Warren, *infidelity to what?* To this doxy or that doxy, perhaps, but not to the honest conviction of the author, and to the God who gave him that conviction. Perhaps this form of infidelity never struck Mr. Warren. We don't profess to endorse the *Vestiges*, but may be excused suggesting, that it may not be an infidel work to marshal facts in support of a theory which, if true, would simply show that God, being really omnipotent and omniscient, did actually make the world on a system so grandly comprehensive, that it will last for ever without repairs, instead of having made it on a principle that requires his constant attention and perpetual alteration and interference. We might quarrel with Mr. Warren's intolerance and discourtesy in these matters—let that pass; but we must say that so utter an absence of an eye to see and a brain to grasp the fundamental essence of subjects like these, degrades these volumes into a very low rank.

The first of these volumes contains a Tale, Papers on Follett, J. W. Smith, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and *Pitcairn's Island*, all sufficiently respectable to be worth a printer's while when the subjects were new, but containing no intrinsic merit to warrant their republication. A paper called "Who is the Murderer?" we commend to Mr. Warren's admirers, asking them to compare it with the account of the Mars' murders by De Quincey. They will there see true genius and pot-genius in the same field, and be not a little startled with the difference, we fancy. The article on the Duke of Marl-

borough is chiefly remarkable for its consummate toadying of Alison and its *naïf* mistaking of platitudes for thought. "How do the events of real life outstrip all that romance has figured or would venture to portray?" observes Mr. Alison." Really does he? Well, here is an original mind, if you like. Yet we think we have met with the same thought before, more tersely and better expressed. In reading this article one cannot help asking, if all this of Alison, what could we say of Gibbon, of Hume, of Hallam, of Macaulay? One is also in difficulty to tell whether Alison or Marlborough be the greater. "Illustrious," "brilliant," "blazing," "radiant," "resplendent," "dazzling," and such adjectives, are showered with lavish impartiality alike on the words of one and the actions of the other. The entire paper is a wonderful instance of culinary utensils setting at defiance the adage,—the pot elaborately brightening the kettle.

Before closing, in justice to our contemporary the *Examiner*, we feel bound to notice Mr. Warren's dealing with the Phillips-Courvoisier case. Mr. Warren evidently fancies his conclusion final, but it is not so. Our readers will recollect that Phillips was employed to defend Courvoisier, and did so to a certain stage, firmly believing his innocence; but in the middle of the trial Courvoisier confessed to his counsel that he really was the murderer. Mr. Phillips, however, continued the defence, did his best to get an acquittal, and went the length of saying that "the omniscient God alone knew who had committed the murder." The *Examiner*, in common with all good men, not being lawyers, was outraged at this novel scene, calculated to emperill the very foundations of social life; and protested against this new view of a counsel's duty, and in so doing attacked Mr. Phillips. This was in 1840, and in 1849 the controversy was renewed. On this latter occasion Mr. Warren took up Mr. Phillips's case, and imagines that he vindicates Mr. Phillips personally, as well as proves the new precedent a right one.

In conclusion we may say that, although these volumes are not worthy the author of the *Diary* and of *Ten Thousand a Year*, they are eminently worthy the author of the *Lily and the Bee*, and the Oration on the Queen's visit to Hull; and in closing them for ever, we cannot refrain from uttering this remark (quite as original as Alison's, quoted above): when a man has nothing to say, how delightful were it if he held his peace.

LIFE OF NICHOLAS I.

Life of Nicholas I. By F. Mayne.

Longman and Co.

NICHOLAS of Russia is undoubtedly the man of the age, whether he be regarded in the fee-faw-fum aspect, or in that of the great worker of the great problem of the century. So, of course, one hears a good deal about him, as indeed one does of any sort of celebrity, of any calibre, from the Imperial measure to the Barnum. Last year the booksellers' shops abounded in Eastern romance, wherein every kind of entirely different opinion upon the Sultan, both as to moral or physique was promulgated. This year it is his Imperial antagonist's turn, and the European *bête noire* is "sat upon" by the literary jurors, and a diversity of verdicts is the result.

The personal character and actual history of Nicholas of Russia have less place in Mr. Mayne's book than, from its title and preface, we were prepared to find them occupy. The big man, with big moustaches and big boots, the popular idea of Nicholas entertained by John Bull, would appear to be a very adequate idea, fully corroborated by facts, to judge by the following description:—"The Czar is now fifty-seven years of age, in person tall and commanding, being about six feet two inches in height, stout, and well made, but rather inclined to corpulency. As yet, however, this is kept within due bounds by tight lacing, said to be very injurious to his personal health. His shoulders and chest are broad and full, his limbs clean and well-made, and his hands and feet small and finely formed." Mr. Mayne does not appear to have any personal knowledge of his subject, which he treats rather loosely, and the volume may be said to be made up of a collection of extracts from well-known works, principally from that of the Marquis de Custine. The conventional notion of the Czar, with which one begins to read anything about him, is totally undisturbed by the perusal of this book.

Other writers beside De Custine speak of the Czar very much like the French marquis, describing him as not a man, but an autocrat,—not as a monarch, but as a despot, as living ever in public to terrify and overawe his people and his servants, and ever under a mask to conceal the terrible vindictiveness with which the slightest fault discoverable towards himself, Russia, and his ideas of what is due to both, is ruthlessly punished. For even while his admirers tell of his determination to punish peculation, and other faults of the same nature, yet in the true spirit of the tyrant he punishes to revenge himself on the offender, not to avenge the majesty of the law, or to hinder from future iniquities of the kind. . . . The one overwhelming feature of the Czar's character is ambition. To be a great Russian Emperor, and to make Russia the chief empire in the world, seems to have been his aim from the moment he mounted the throne, even if it was not the dream of his life from an earlier period. The partition of Poland with others, his amenities to Austria, the assistance he rendered that state during the civil war in Hungary, were all so many present self-denials to smooth the way for the future conquest of the land on which he had set his heart—Turkey. For long years, as witnessed by the diplomatic correspondence lately published, has he determined on possessing himself of the keys of the East, which he thinks, and probably truly, added to his mighty northern possessions, would give him supreme dominion throughout the world. Very crafty, deep-laid, and sagacious have been his plans; but the British feeling of protecting the weak, and the far-seeing policy of the Emperor of the French, have unexpectedly come in his way.

In similar platitudes the book abounds. When the author's composition is succeeded by extracts from somewhat more readable books, and towards the conclusion, by selections from the *Times* correspondence, it increases in interest. The following is a curious specimen of the mode of intellectual training to which Young Russia is subjected under the Czar's paternal rule. It is an extract from the Catechism taught in all Russian schools:—

Q. How is the authority of the Emperor to be considered in reference to the Spirit of Christianity?

A. As proceeding immediately from God.

Q. What duties does religion teach us, the humble subjects of his Majesty the Emperor of Russia, to practice towards him?

- A. Worship, obedience, fidelity, the payment of taxes, service, love, and prayer, the whole being comprised in the words worship and service.
 Q. Wherein does this worship consist, and how should it be manifested?
 A. By the most unqualified reverence in words, gestures, demeanour, thoughts, and actions.
 Q. What kind of obedience do we owe him?
 A. An entire, passive, and unbounded obedience in every point of view.
 Q. How are irreverence and infidelity to the Emperor to be considered in reference to God?
 A. As the most heinous sin, and the most frightful criminality.

A BATCH OF EDUCATIONAL BOOKS.

Discoveries in Chinese; or, the Symbolism of the Primitive Characters of the Chinese System of Writing, as a Contribution to Philology and Ethnology, and a Practical Aid in the Acquisition of the Chinese Language. By Stephen Pearl Andrews (Norton, New York). As it has been emphatically asserted with more or less reason that the Age of Miracles is not passed, we have no objection to supposing that, probably, a work on the symbolism of Chinese characters may find readers—possibly purchasers. The long title is really more suggestive than any observations that might fall from a hasty reviewer, who, for want of time to learn Chinese, knows nothing about the subject. If more than this confession be required, it will be sufficient to inform the reader that the volume is accompanied by a panegyric (apparently written by the publisher) which shows clearly that the work leaves nothing to be desired. Let us then hope, for other reasons besides, that nothing more will be written on the symbolism of Chinese characters.

Mr. Norton, of New York, also supplies us with a little book which bears the attractively antithetical title of *Glossology; a Treatise on the Nature of Language and on the Language of Nature*. By Charles Kraitsir, M.D. The words *Second Edition* on the title-page testify to its merits. The philologically curious—those who would read anything or everything on the subject—will welcome it; but the curiously philological—who know rather too much already—will probably laugh at it. In the beginning the reader is told that "This is not a mere collection of trivial remarks or of the usual views on Human Speech, considered either as a vehicle of intercourse between men, or as a key to unlock the literary treasures of a specific language with. It is analogous to a treatise on Navigation, or on Architecture, or on Materia Medica; each one being taken with reference to the whole cycle of the respective sciences of which it is composed. As each of these treatises is, as it were, a sort of nosegay or bouquet of flowers culled from the several beds of their scientific gardens, so is the present book intended to be a kind of brain, ears, and eyes-gay, gathered from the psychologic, anatomic, acoustic, graphic, grammatic, lexiconic, ethnographic, &c., beds of the garden of Anthropology." Now the reader knows all about it, and a great deal more!

A third American work has reached us—this time from Cincinnati. A "great country" naturally has great words, and so a mere British public must not be astonished at a series of lectures on what we call Phrenology being entitled *Outlines of Lectures on the Neurological System of Anthropology, as Discovered, Demonstrated, and Taught in 1841 and 1842*. By Joseph R. Buchanan, M.D. Rashly did we say "Phrenology" would express the subject, for it also includes Cerebral Physiology, Pathognomy, and Sarcognomy. However, the part, as usual, contains the whole. The volume gives us the outlines of one hundred lectures, prefaced by an elaborate review of Gall's system, which it corrects on many points. There are also numerous engravings, displaying sectional views of the craniums of philanthropists or cannibals, as the case may be. Everything is explained in the customary manner by figures and an Index. The work, in spite of its technical jargon, is really interesting—indeed valuable—and will doubtless be eagerly sought by the increasing public which the subject now commands.

Popular British Conchology, by G. B. Sowerby, F.L.S. (Reeve), is a little book which will materially mitigate the miseries of a month at Margate, or elsewhere. People who "pick up shells by the great ocean" will find much interest in comparing them with the beautifully drawn and coloured illustrations which are contained in this volume.

The same publisher has issued *First Steps in Economic Botany*—an abridgment of the larger work by T. C. Archer. The abridgment has been undertaken at the suggestion of the "Department of Science and Art," which is an official notification of its worth. It appears to be less erudite, and consequently more suitable for students, than Dr. Lindley's *School Botany*. The illustrations are especially praiseworthy for their gracefulness.

History for Boys; or, Annals of the Nations of Modern Europe, by John G. Edgar (Bogue), occupies medium ground between the great little historians Pinnock and Markham. It is certainly a fuller work than the former, but has scarcely the grasp of misinformation and extensive want of philosophy which renders the latter so great a favourite. There are occasionally strong dashes in the Froissart style, and these have been seized as subjects by an anonymous artist, who, if not Gilbert, must make that illustrator tremble.

Flax and Hemp; their Culture, &c., by E. Sebastian Delamer (Routledge), is a little shilling Manual, cheap and interesting. *Logic for the Young* (Longman and Co.) is a great improvement on the treatise of Dr. Watts, inasmuch as it is only a selection from that work. *Mer-cur-ius; or, the Word-Maker*, by the Rev. Henry Le Mesurier, M.A. (Longman and Co.), is a work to criticise which, unless at great length, would be idle. Great length we cannot afford, so we will merely say that it has similar interest with Trench's little work, but that it is infinitely too clever for general reading. Mr. Husson's *Practical and Easy Method of Learning French* (Simpkin) is neither so practical nor so easy as the author would make us believe. As an auxiliary work it may be found useful.

If Mr. Le Page will write books for teaching French which reach twenty-second editions, he must allow that fact to speak for itself. It is impossible to notice a fresh edition every quarter. Instead of our criticism he must take our congratulations. If such works as the *French Prompter*, the *Echo de Paris*, and the *Gift of Conversation*, together with the elementary books, need any further recognition, we can conscientiously recommend them to all who wish for an individual alliance with the French.

THE FISH FANCIER'S OWN BOOK.

Prose Haliestica; or, Ancient and Modern Fish Tattle. By the Rev. C. David Badham, M.D.
 John W. Parker and Son.

One portion of this delightful volume has already instructed and amused a large circle of readers in the pages of *Fraser's Magazine*; another portion is now published for the first time, and the result is one of the most entertaining books on a thoroughly unhackneyed subject, which it has been our good fortune to read for some time past. In these days of vehemently smart writing it is a rare merit in an author when he can amuse his readers without suggesting the idea of effort on his own part. Mr. Badham may fairly claim the distinction of being one of the "select few" in this respect. He uses his extraordinary antiquarian and technical knowledge of his subject in all its branches, easily, gracefully, and entertainingly, from the first page to the last. He manages to interest us, on any ancient or modern topic which he chooses to take up in connexion with fish, in the pleasantest possible manner. How the ancients caught fish—how the moderns sell it, especially in the Naples market—how to dress mullet—how to study sticklebacks—where the entrails of bastard-mackerel once enjoyed a great reputation—what the Apician receipts were for stewing fish—what the Neapolitan fish-weighters make by their work—what Asturius Celser gave for a single mullet, are some among the hundreds of quaint out-of-the-way fish topics about which Mr. Badham discourses as gaily and lightly as if his information had never cost him more than a passing moment or two of research. We lay great stress upon the manner in which this book is written, because we believe that Mr. Badham has made his subject, in the first instance, interesting to everybody by the lively anecdotal manner in which he has treated it. People in general have but two interests in the matter of fish—the interest of catching them, and the interest of eating them. Mr. Badham first lures his readers into looking at the subject in a new light, and then proceeds to inform them further, so easily and gaily that they may learn everything from him, and be conscious of no other educational process at the end of the lesson than the very pleasant process of being constantly amused.

By way of substantiating our favourable opinion we must now offer the reader one or two specimens of our author's *Fish Tattle*. Here is a paragraph of gratifying

ENCOURAGEMENT TO FISH-EATERS AT HOME.

As no bottle of alec or garum has hitherto turned up in the excavations of Pompeii, we cannot speak authoritatively, nor institute a comparison between these productions of the Burgesses of antiquity with our own. Fish, however, we can compare, and the result goes to prove that any Cockney with two shillings and sixpence in his pocket, may regale over the stairs of Hungerford-market, at Blackwall or Richmond, on delicacies to which the senate and people of Rome were utter strangers. Indeed, it is no inconsiderable set-off against the disadvantages of living so far from the sun, that the supplies of northern fish-markets are incontestably and greatly superior to those of any Italian or Sicilian pescheria: superior, 1st, because in those kinds which are common to our great ocean, and their "great sea," our own are better flavoured; because, 2ndly, even the finer sorts, which belong exclusively to the Mediterranean, are for the most part poor; and 3rdly, and above all, because there is an almost total want in its waters of species which we consider, and advisedly, as our best. Were superiority to be determined by mere beauty and variety of colouring, the market of Billingsgate could not enter into competition for a moment with the smallest fishing-town in the south, where the fish are for the most part coasters, and derive their gorgeous hues from the same buccina and coquillage whence the Tyrians got their superb dyes. But as the gayest plumage is by no means indicative of the bird best adapted for the table, so brilliancy of scales affords no criterion by which to judge of the culinary excellence of fish, the beauty of whose skin in this instance contrasts singularly with the quality of the flesh, which is generally poor and insipid, and sometimes unwholesome and even deleterious. The Mediterranean pelagians (or open sea-fish) have neither brilliancy of colour nor delicacy of flesh to atone for the want of it; so that no Englishman will repine to leave thunny beef to the Sicilian ichthyophagist, whilst he has the genuine pasture-fed article at home in place of it. Nor, though, to such coarse feeders as the ancient Greeks, sword-fish might be held equal to veal, will his better-instructed palate assent to such a libel upon wholesome butchers' meat. Mullet must indeed be admitted on all hands to be a good fish; but one good thing only in a hundred does not satisfy omnivorous man, and *tojours triglia* is not better than *tojours perdrix*, as everyone who has passed a winter at Naples knows to his cost. Sardines are only palatable in oil, *au naturel* they are exceedingly poor and dry; and for that other small clupean, the anchovy (the latent virtues of which are only elicited by the process which metamorphoses the fish into sauce), British white-bait is far more than an equivalent. But if the Mediterranean has but few alumni to be proud of, the poverty of its waters is certainly more conspicuous in its deficiencies than in its supplies; indeed, the instinct of all first-rate fish seems to be to turn their tail upon this sea. Thus among the salmonide, salmon and smelt are alike unknown; of the gadian family, all the finest species, as cod, haddock, whiting, ling, and coal-fish are wanting; and to quote but one other example,

"Whilst migrant herrings steer their myriad bands,

From seas of ice to visit warmer strands,

as we read in the Apocrypha of Dr. Darwin, not one ever entered the Bay of Naples, unless salted in a barrel from England.

Our author can write well on other subjects besides Fish. How graphically, and how truly, he describes

A STORM IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

While the observer is, perhaps, enjoying the placid moonbeams, and reluctantly thinking of returning home, a whole park of artillery is preparing for mischief behind the rocks of Capri. A squall, as sudden as a Neapolitan's "rabbia," quickly ruffles the quiescent sea, and lashes it into foam; the earliest intimation of which is no sooner given, than all hasten to put themselves under cover from its violence. Clouds muster with inconceivable rapidity, and come trooping up from the south-east, till they form a serried, black phalanx over Baia, and proceeding *via Pozzuoli* and *Iscia*, extinguish the stars and moon, and eclipse even the glare of Vesuvius, making the waters dark and the night hideous. Hark! it is coming now in earnest, and we happily are at home. That was not the rumble of a carriage along the Margellina, nor the report of distant fire-arms, but the muffled growl of the approaching tempest, the surcharge of that distended mass of discord which now fills the whole sky; the great battle between heaven and earth is at hand, and there is a dreadful pause before the first broadside is launched over the ghastly flood. Sometimes a rapid prelude of lightning, with a roll of muffled thunder, precedes the great outbreak; then down it comes irresistibly, booming over the grotto of Pausilippo, shaking the houses along the shore, re-echoing from the heights of St. Elmo, and making the cannon of the Castel dell' Uovo uneasy

in their branchings. How abruptly the cats have ceased to external under our feet! no wandering dog any longer bays the eclipsed moon, nor stays to bark at the unfrequent passenger; every other sound is either hushed or absorbed in the terrible voice of the storm; and once begun, there is no pause in its violence. Thunderings, more and more loud, come at shorter intervals, and its red artillery, more and more dazzlingly bright, appears to penetrate through the opacity of all things. 'Tis vain to close our eyes, and try to shut it out; the lightning flames in at the smallest chink of the shutters, revealing our coward countenances to one another's observation. A few drops begin to patter against the window, and the assembled party, breathing more freely, hail the familiar sound; the rain increases, and is soon heard rushing down in torrents. Hopes are now entertained that the deluge of water will drown the lightning, or render it innocuous; but that thought has scarcely given comfort, when a dash more blinding than any yet seen, accompanied by an instant loud explosion, which makes every shutter shake, and the whole house tremble, dissipates the illusion. That detonating crack was no *brutum fulmen*, but has done its work somewhere in our immediate proximity. As the howling of the wind subsides, the waves, lashed into fury, may be heard thundering against the cliffs. Oh, what a terrible night at sea!

Another hour, and the rain has entirely ceased; we throw open the casement, and look out upon the wild night with something like the "*severe mari magno*" feeling; then close the window and retire to bed, where, lulled by the distant roar of the waters, we soon fall asleep, and rise next morning to find everything much as it was at the same hour yesterday. Vesuvius, more solito, sending up his grey wreath, the bay scarcely ruffled, fishermen in all directions putting out their boats, and but for the ponds about the house, no indication afforded that there had been any disturbance in the weather last night.

We have only room to quote part of Mr. Badham's description of

THE NAPLES FISH-MARKET.

In the centre of a dirty little largo, something like the confluence of the Seven Dials, where the sale of fish is principally carried on, is one of those short ugly monuments called *Aguglia*, which are so profusely stuck over Naples; architectural scarecrows, neither column, pyramid, nor obelisk, but seemingly devices taken from the chess-board or jeweller's shop.—Brobdignag pawns in marble, or colossal seal-handles in stucco, capped either with a gilt Madonna, or a flag, bearing Santa Maria on one side, and St. Januarius on the other.

Ever and anon, accompanied by a fresh crowd, and announced by beat of drum, new arrivals of fish, just landed, are paraded, as was the sturgeon in days of yore, in long procession to the spot. Next come the *Capi del Spermalelli*, or chiefs of the market, with their huge scales, which being speedily adjusted, the fish is duly weighed and registered, and then sold in lots. Messmen, *trattori*, *chefi*, convent cooks, crowd round the auctioneer, who forthwith begins, *à la Robins*, to put up for sale the *poisson noble*, the *chefi d'œuvre* of the market. "Ah! fichi! fichi! che belle cose! a quanto, signor miei?" etc., looking interrogatively at the principal buyers, hoping thereby to excite them to outbid one another; and the same fierce contention then commences which was exhibited nineteen centuries ago, when Lucullus purchased mullet and parrot-fish for his entertainments, and Apicius wrote aphorisms in his study on preparing and cooking them. There is always a loud and amusing competition between the hotel and convent cooks, each acting according to the instruction of his chief, but the former generally bearing away the prime specimens.

It is impossible to conceive anything like the din and discord of an Italian or Sicilian market at the market hour. "None but itself can be its parallel," and yet the whole is effected by some score only of human tongues let loose at will. Everybody there either is, or seems to be, in a passion, each trying to outcream, outroar, out-bellow, and outblaspheme his neighbour, till the combined uproar fills the whole area, and rises high above it. The men are all Stentors; the women perfect Menads; the children a set of howling imps, whom nothing short of Thuggism could pacify; it is no unimportant spectacle in this frantic neighbourhood to see some baby clenching its tiny hands and boneless gums in concentrated passion, tearing at the rudiments of hair, and screaming with all its puny strength; or, in yet wilder extravagance, its arms in the air, hurling defiance at its own mother, who, standing at bay with the mien of a Tisiphone, strives to drown her baby's voice in her own frenzied treble, and looks as if she could drown him, too, for a very small consideration.

The noise arouses every living creature, even to the flies, who are stimulated into consciousness, and begin to buzz full half-an-hour sooner than the warmth of the sun would have awakened them; hungry dogs, fearless of observation, press close on the heels of the bawling, pre-occupied crowd; sleek cats beyond the reach of dogs come creeping over the fish-stalls, and prescient rats, peeping from obscure holes, can scarce refrain from rushing out *en masse* upon the offer, shortly to be left at their disposal.

As a specimen of Mr. Badham's quaintly-humorous way of giving us the benefit of his classical and antiquarian knowledge, take the following passage about

THE BIRTH OF EELS.

Touching the birth of eels, much has been conjectured, and little positively ascertained: their origin, like that of evil, is a vexed question still; whether they come from eggs, or wriggle into existence little eels, few have been able quite to satisfy themselves. Several theories on the subject were early broached. Oppian supposes an embrace of the sexes actually to take place; after which a strigmentum, or glaucy exudation from the surface of the body, detaches itself and falls to the bottom, where it is vitalized; not by the co-operation of any apocryphal mud-nymph—some

"Young Latetia, softer than the down,
Nigrina black, or Merdamante brown,"

but by an intra-uterine action of the mud itself! for what, asks Oppian, is so engendering as mud? Aristotle calls eels "the solitary race that have neither seed nor offspring." He thinks also that their origin, as the Greek name indeed denotes, is from the mud. Pliny's theory was, that when eels had lived their day they instinctively rubbed themselves to pieces against the rocks, and that out of the living debris issued a new brood: a mode of generation which in some lower animal organisations actually takes place. Many as implicitly believed this ingenious hypothesis, as children duly instructed believe that the effete moon is cut up into stars, and that the monthly succession of old ones has gradually been filling the sky with these lesser luminaries ever since the world began to the present hour. Some, dissatisfied with such explanations, observing how easily Virgil contrived to fill his bee-hives from the carcass of a heifer, and not seeing why if bees were so generated fish might not be also, affirmed that eels came from the dead bodies of animals after long immersion in water. Others, again, modified this notion, and supposed that only the hairs of a horse's tail, soaked a sufficient time, would at last adapt themselves to a new element and become eels. Finally, some ancient naturalists, finding the terrestrial origin of eels obscure, had recourse to the skies, and attributed this multitudinous race to Jupiter and a white-armed goddess named Anguilla; accordingly, Arcestratus, in his description of an Attic feast, introduces Anguilla, boasting of her Jove-sprung offspring.

Our last extract must present an admirable vindication of

THE FREEDOM OF FISH.

As free as a bird, says the proverb; as free as a fish, say we; for if 'fish' be not their own masters, who are? No other creature has half the facilities for shifting quarters and changing domicile that he has. Furnished with a body in itself a perfect locomotive, a vigorous tail for a piston, and cerebral energy in lieu of steam, the sea itself affords a level for railroads of communication and transport in every direction, and the North and South Poles are the only natural terminuses to the journey. Man cannot compete with fish here; for few, from various lets and hindrances, are permitted to vagabondize at will, and of those who might be disposed to indulge the fancy, fewer still possess the means for its accomplishment. The yacht animal enjoys himself, no doubt, as he cruises about the high seas for amusement; but this pleasure has risks, as well as obvious limits. Squalls may upset or whirlpools engulf him and his frail bark; her mast may be struck by lightning, her keel may be run upon a rock; her rudder be carried away; her sails torn to ribbons; her ribs melt in the red glare of fire on board; or if she adventure too near the poles, the crew is liable to be hemmed in, and fortunate if, after six months' bumping, "nipping," and crushing, they bring her off at last, and manage to escape white bears, famine, and an icy grave. Besides these liabilities to mischief, the wants of those on board compel frequent forced halts; here for coal, there for water; and then there are sundry runnings into harbour in dirty weather, to the further delay of the ship's voyage; all which "touchings," in order to "go," must often sadly retard a sigh in its passage from India to the Pole.

In birds, wings supply the place and greatly exceed the efficiency of sails; but even wings have their limitations of action, and are also subject to many mishaps. Birds can neither soar heavenward nor skim far across the waters without being made sensible of this; the stoutest pinon cannot long beat the frosty air of high altitudes, and remain unnumbed; thus high and no higher may the eagle aeronaut mount; whilst of birds of passage, how many thousands, trusting, like Icarus, to uncertain wings, drop and die in the transit to another continent, and cover whole roads of ocean with their feathery carcases!

Quadrupeds, again, are yet more restricted in their wanderings over the earth: natural obstacles are continually presenting so many bars to their progress; the dry and thirsty desert where no water is, inaccessible snow-capped mountain-ridges, the impenetrable screen of forest-trees, the broad lake, the unfordable and rapid river, the impassable line of a sea-girt shore; any of these impediments are enough to keep beasts within an area of no very wide range. Thus it fares with all creatures, denizens either of earth or air; but none of these obstacles impede the activity of fish. They may swim anywhere and everywhere through the boundless expanse of waters; and, in defiance alike of trade-wind or storm, may traverse the open seas at every season, surrounded on all sides with suitable food, and finding at different depths the temperature most congenial to their health and comfort, whether at the torrid or frozen zone. Some of the scaly tribe, to whom fresh water is not less palatable than salt or brackish, may even go far inland, visit without a "Guide" lakes hitherto undescribed by tourists, or follow, à la Bruce, the meanderings of some mighty river from its mouth up to its sources. Supported in a fluid of nearly the same specific gravity as their own, the upper portion of the body throws no weight upon the lower, and weariness is impossible. Where there is no fatigue, repose becomes unnecessary; and accordingly we find these denizens of the deep, like their "mobile mother," the sea, "who rolls, and rolls, and rolls, and still goes rolling on," never perfectly at rest. When the day has been passed in swimming, and the evening paddled out in sport, away float these everlasting voyagers through the night, and are borne in a luxurious hydrostatic bed, wherever the current chances to carry them; and, with no other trouble than that of occasionally opening their mouths for a gulp of fresh air, on they go, till early dawn, bursting upon a pair of unprotected eyeballs, gives their owners timely notice to descend deeper, and to strike out with fins and tail in whatever direction waking thoughts may suggest.

We must now leave our readers to pick out for themselves all the other good passages in this very entertaining and very instructive book.

The Arts.

THEATRICALS IN BERLIN.

ALTHOUGH the Drama has lost its high office, and has long ceased to be no more than an Amusement—a fact against which it is in vain to strive, lying as it does in the very development of national culture—yet I must own that in witnessing the performance of Lessing's noble play, *Nathan the Wise*, I was profoundly impressed with the high capabilities the stage still possesses of presenting the people with an Amusement which should be elevated, impressive, educational. It is of course a very difficult problem to unite the requisite amusement with this higher aim; and I very much fear that a recalcitrant London pit would not be greatly amused by *Nathan the Wise*. The greater the difficulty the greater the honour. There is no reason why the dramatist should not have a higher aim; no reason why the Teacher should not for his purposes cultivate the art of amusing. But if there is no valid reason to be given—there is undoubtedly the stolid fact that dramatists with high aims are the reverse of amusing, while the amusing dramatists are the last men one would accept as teachers.

In *Nathan the Wise* there breathes a grand spirit of tolerance; such male accents of humanity as bring delicious tears into the eyes—such deep and far-reaching thoughts as stimulate the activity of the soul, rebuking its intolerance, and startling us into a more loving human mood than that which pulpit teachings have made habitual! But while we see this exhibition of tolerance, this rebuke of spiritual pride and dogmatic narrowness unfolding itself before our eyes in the actions and language of men, we also witness the development of a drama, which is, indeed, not very exciting as a drama, but which might have been, had a dramatist treated the subject. The magnificent drama of *Julius Caesar*—one of Shakspeare's highest and most massive works—is ample evidence of how intensely dramatic the mere exhibition of character and principle may be made; and had he treated *Nathan the Wise*, it would have had an influence as profound and lasting as the *Pilgrim's Progress*. Unhappily the condition of the English public, as to religious thought, is so narrow, that even now in this nineteenth century such a play as *Nathan* would not be tolerated on any English stage. The pit would "rise" at it. The shrieks of horror which would assail its maxims of tolerance—the yells of Christian indignation which would

rise from every part of the house at the story of the Three Rings, from outraged Protestants furious at the idea of any form of religion but their own being other than damnable heresy—the cries of “Atheism” which would be flung at this vindication “of the ways of God to man” would surpass Exeter Hall’s fervour against the Scarlet Woman. Yet here, in Berlin, the centre of a corrupt, pietistic reaction, the city of all Germany where hypocrisy is most petted and powerful, here *Nathan der Weise* is not only performed on the stage of the King’s own theatre, but greatly applauded by the Berlin public. Such a fact “gives pause.” It was very striking to me, and made me think, not favourably, of my own country. I should add that the pietists tried to suppress the continuance of this work on the stage. That they tried and failed, is a striking proof of the liberality in religious thought which exists in the German mind, and which no party can uproot.

Nathan der Weise was very beautifully put on the stage; but I cannot say much of the acting. *Saladin* was represented by a gentleman with imperfect teeth and waddling gait. Picture to yourself Mr. Brown the Oilman in the Eastern Costume, and you will not be far wrong in your conception of the Berlin *Saladin*. Mrs. Brown going to a masquerade as the *Pride of the Harem* will with equal vividness represent *Sittah*. But I must say much in praise of Herr Döring’s performance of *Nathan*: it was very intelligent, beautifully spoken, (especially the monologues and the story of the Three Rings) and admirably represented the mild kindness of the Jew. The objection to be made was to the conception not to the execution: it was too natural—in the vulgar sense of the word—that is to say, not natural as representing *Nathan’s* nature, but the nature of an ordinary benevolence. *Nathan* is not simply a loving kindly man—he is a Jew in whom profound intelligence, acting on a noble nature, has raised that nature into heroic eminence. The wise man one did not feel in Döring’s personation, but rather a keen, astute, good humoured man.

I saw Herr Döring play *Iago*, and lost much of the estimation in which his *Nathan* had placed him. As *Iago*—and indeed in all the characters I have seen him in—he showed decided talent, and some excellent qualities; but the conception of *Iago* was so utterly un-Shakspearian, so unworthy of a stage pretending to the rank of this theatre, that for some time I was puzzled. He makes *Iago* a low comedy part, elicits laughter by buffoonery, and drags down that marvellous conception to the vulgarest level. No trace of *Iago’s* bitter wit, superior cold intellect, “motiveless malignity,” rough exterior of honesty and soldierlike frankness! In the great tempting scene, where it is not possible to get a laugh, he was loud and unintelligent, in striking contrast to Herr Dessoir, the *Othello*, who was not loud enough, but was intelligent. Indeed, among all the actors here in Berlin, there is only Herr Dessoir in whom I recognise the intellect which can grasp a character (as distinguished from the intellect which lays hold of a characteristic) and present a whole. He has been charily gifted by Nature with the physical attributes which are demanded of the actor; his figure is small, his features small, and his voice deficient in compass and modulation. But he is a real artist, who sets to work in an earnest spirit, and makes intellect supply the place of personal attractiveness. The reader perhaps remembers Herr Dessoir among the German troupe last year (where, by the way, he was seen to great advantage), and I was very glad to see him on his own stage—at home, as it were. His performance of *Marinelli* in *Emilia Galotti* was a wonderful bit of *finesse*: the military courtier was represented with a mingled stiffness and servility very admirable; his soliloquies excellent.

The Berlin stage is as unhappy in its *jeunes-premiers* as most stages are. Herr Liedekte is a good-looking man, with a pronunciation which scarifies a delicate ear, but of which few seem to take notice here. He played *Cassio* the other night, and I must do him the justice to say that it was the very worst *Cassio* I have ever seen. Indeed, the Berlin stage has little to boast of in its Shakspearian performances. The *mise en scène* is singularly cold, and in many respects unworthy of a city which prides itself on appreciating Shakspeare. They want an English or French acting manager to show them how a piece should move. Apart from this, they take liberties with the text which are inconceivable. For example, will it be believed that the division into acts which Shakspeare has made in *Hamlet* is entirely set aside for a new one; and that among the alterations, the famous graveyard scene, with its important scene of quarrel between *Hamlet* and *Laertes*, is entirely left out? *Hamlet* enters, moralises, is informed by a messenger that *Ophelia* is to be buried, and is invited to attend the burial—elsewhere! The Germans who really do love Shakspeare and study him, who are proud of their stage, and believe that Shakspeare is played more by them than by us (a mistake), have, it appears, no critics “troublesome” enough to point out such absurdities as these. The most critical of all nations leave the stage uncriticised!

I have outrun my space, and must leave for some future occasion other things I had to say both of theatre and actors. You will be anxious to learn something of Johanna Wagner—and the tenor Formes, brother to our Formes, the shouters. But I must bask your expectation by that exasperating phrase—

(To be continued.)

L.

MUSIC IN VIENNA.

Vienna, December 19, 1854.

THE Opera-house here has at present lost its attraction. Mademoiselle La Grace has gone to Turin, where she is to sing at the Theatre Royal during the forthcoming carnival, and Mademoiselle Taglioni has winged her flight to Berlin, to enchant once more with her magic feet the people of that capital. I am doubtful whether Mademoiselle La Grace will create in Italy so great a sensation as she created in Vienna. It is true that her dramatic conception, and her powers as a vocalist, are of no ordinary character; but, to my mind, she is too unfinished a performer and singer to make any startling impression on a people so peculiarly fastidious as the Italians in respect to excellence in all matters of genuine art. Her voice, as you may have heard, is a perfect mezzo soprano; and

it is very good indeed from “*fa to fa*,” but whenever she attempts to ascend, she is driven to force her voice and shriek. She cannot sustain her organ to the conclusion of a grand aria, and in Italy, where the Verdi mania prevails, Mademoiselle La Grace will find great obstacles to her success. By the way, the differences which have existed between Mademoiselle La Grace and the management here have been “amicably settled,” and she has entered into another engagement, which is to last for eight years! She is to receive twenty thousand florins annually, and is to be allowed a furlough of four months in each year. All those, who do not envy, congratulate Mademoiselle La Grace on her good fortune.

The concert season began on the 26th ult. Signor and Madame Marchesi (whose names will be pleasingly remembered in London, where they so frequently appeared in musical circles both private and public for several years) gave a great evening concert at the “Saale der Gesellschaft der Musik-Freunde.” The room was crowded by the most fashionable persons in Vienna and lovers of singing. Signor Marchesi, whose wonderful baritone voice has been considerably cultivated since I listened to it some eighteen months ago, and who has evidently profited by his recent practice on the Italian stage, drew from the audience the most rapturous and spontaneous applause. In the aria from the opera *Esio*, by Handel, and the aria of Mozart, *Non più andria*, he was encored and recalled. Madame Marchesi, whose unaffected style and sweetness of voice drew forth such admiration in England, warbled in her happiest vein, and delighted her hearers more than would many a singer of greater power and loftier pretensions. It is needless for me to speak at any length of the esteem in which Madame Marchesi is held in Vienna when I tell you that she has been recently appointed Professeur de Chant au Conservatoire.

A few words about the orchestra, which was under the direction of Herr Hellmesberger. The overture of Cherubini’s opera of *Medea* was admirably executed. (How it reminded me of Mendelssohn’s music!)

On the 3rd instant took place the first of the four grand concerts given every year in Vienna by the Gesellschaft der Musik-Freunde, in Redoutensaal, under the direction of Herr Hellmesberger. There was a symphonie of Schumann’s. I am not disposed to put much faith in my own judgment in such a matter, but it strikes me very forcibly that Schumann’s music gives much stronger evidence of talent and knowledge than of originality. The execution of the symphonie was certainly good. On this occasion Mademoiselle Adela Cornet (who is a daughter of the manager of the Opera) made her *début*, and sang an aria from the opera of *Euryante*. Mademoiselle Cornet, whose beautiful face and graceful figure prepossessed the spectators the moment she appeared, has a sweet voice, and she sang well; but whether her vocal powers, which I am constrained to say are, at present, somewhat limited, will ever sufficiently expand to win her a niche in the temple of fame, is a matter upon which I should be sorry to hazard any opinion. She has my most fervent hopes, in common with those of hundreds.

Herr Hellmesberger and Herr Heisler performed a duet-concertante (on the violin and viola) by Mozart, with orchestra accompaniment. Only those who listened to their performance can form any idea of the exquisite skill which was displayed by the eminent artists by whom it was undertaken. Hellmesberger introduced a cadence which enraptured every soul present. It was an idea of his own—and I question whether any man in the world could copy it. An overture of the opera *Rienzi*, by R. Wagner, closed this magnificent concert. The audience (and its taste could not be disputed) did not receive the overture with that rapture which bespeaks unqualified satisfaction, and the circumstance led me to believe more definitely than ever that the music of Schumann and Wagner is not, and will not be, popular in Vienna.

On the 8th instant a morning Concert was given by Herr Boclet. I was not present, but I hear the entertainment was well attended. On the same evening we had the first of the subscription *soirées* of the Quartett Productionen given by the Herren Hellmesberger, Durst, Heisler and Schlesinger. Two quartetts—one by Hadyn and the other by Beethoven, were produced with immense effect; but the great novelty of the entertainment was a trio by C. Eckart, Hofosern, and Kapellmeister (violin, violoncello, and piano). Although the composition of this piece bore so strong a resemblance to Mendelssohn’s music as to rob it of the high claim to originality, nevertheless the warmth of the reception it met with bespoke its intrinsic merit. Eckart, the composer, himself presided at the piano.

On the 9th instant Signor and Madame Marchesi gave a second entertainment. The room, as on the first occasion, was crowded by the leading personages in Vienna. The programme was attractive, and the performance of both Signor and Madame Marchesi was excellent on this occasion. Miss Louisa Cellini, a young lady of English birth and parentage, made her *début*, and was received with immense *éclat*. Miss Cellini, who has studied for some time past under Madame Marchesi, has an extremely beautiful soprano voice, which has been carefully cultivated, and I should not be at all surprised to find our fair compatriot taking ere long a distinguished place amongst the concert singers of the day. She is already engaged to sing at Leipzig, during the next month, at a series of concerts. By the way, in noticing the last performance of Signor and Madame Marchesi, I ought not to omit to mention a very great hit made by the former in rendering the famous aria in *Acis and Galatea* of Handel in German. Since Herr Staudigl no one in all Germany has ever attempted to sing this difficult piece of music. It is thought by persons here well capable of forming a sound opinion, that Marchesi is as classical a singer as were Lablache, Tamburini, and Staudigl, in their day.

I.

THEATRES—THE PANTOMIMES.

We do not pretend to have seen all the pantomimes, this Christmas, any more than we claim to have devoured all the turkeys that have been set before us; but we have conformed to both these institutions, with, we trust, a becoming respect for the established order of things. And—partly out of our own experience, partly from report on which we may trustfully depend—we propose now to speak of the pantomimes. At

DRURY LANE,

There is a great deal to be seen, and some of it worth the seeing. The manager’s intention to get as much into four hours as possible is apparent in the very name of his Christmas-piece, which is a name of multitude, signifying many. If *Jack and Jill*, and *Harlequin King Mustard*, or *Four-and-twenty Blackbirds Baked in a Pie*, does not convey an impression of unlimited trust in

the resources of the property-man, what, indeed, is in a name, we should like to know? As in last year's pantomime at this theatre, and as in every year's pantomime everywhere, the first scenes are occupied with the contentions of a cheerful fairy and a dismal fairy, or rather witch or wizard (sex always doubtful), who is morbidly conscious of two long pieces of white tape. Our stout friend "Appiness" we were sorry not to see; her place was supplied by "Good Humour," in the handsome person of Miss Arden; but we could swear to the principal bad spirit, who is evidently getting worse, particularly in his legs and memory, and must soon be as execrable as his dearest friend, among the super-numeraries, can desire. The combined stories of Jack and Jill, and the baked but still unsilenced blackbirds, and a good deal of irrelevant matter besides, are finally disposed of, and the harlequinade begins with the same multiplicity of feature that has characterised the introductory business. Here is the cast:—"Harlequin," Monsieur Milano; "Clown," Signor Boleno; "Pantaloon," Herr Moleno; "Columbine," Mesdemoiselles Boleno and Honey; "Sprites," the Wonderful Italian Brothers and Mr. Wilkins. With this array of native talent, what doubt could there be of success? The pantomime was, as it deserved to be, successful; for it is lavishly and skillfully got up, and was supported by the unflagging exertions of the pantomimists.

THE PRINCESS'S

Does not disappoint the expectation which everybody had formed of a gorgeous spectacle, enlivened with fanciful and picturesque ballet-groupings, ingenious devices of mechanism, and some amount of genuine pantomimic drollery. *Blue Beard* is the subject, and the story is pretty closely followed. The usual fairy scenes are, of course, admitted; but they interfere very little with the traditional fates of "Abomelique," "Fatima," and "Sister Anne." After the transformation there was an unusual allowance of pretty scenery, while, as we have hinted, the pantomimists were up to their work. The "Columbine," Miss Desborough, is pretty and graceful, dancing with spirit as well as professional skill. The "Clown," Mr. Huline, has a certain cleanness on his tricks that now and then reminds one agreeably of Auriol; and he is not without humour, though that is far different from Auriol's. He danced a mock Spanish dance admirably.

THE HAYMARKET

Has the best Pantomime for children; and this, of course, is giving the palm unreservedly to the Haymarket. The nice young lady who was, last year, the

"Little Silver Hair" of Southey's charming nursery-rhyme, is "Little Bo-peep" now; and in making the change she has lost nothing of her pretty, child-like manner, which shows continually through the imparted grace of the ballet-master. The pantomime scenes after the transformation are well kept up, but none of the actors surpassed Mr. Arthur Brown, who played a wolf, named "Scruncher," in the opening part of the spectacle. The love-making of this animal and his subsequent terrific combat with "Bo-peep's" lover were decidedly good things of their kind. In fact, since Mr. Marshall's "Green Dog," at the Lyceum, there has been no better piece of zoological pantomime than Mr. Arthur Brown's Wolf "Scruncher."

SADLERS' WELLS

Has a pantomime on the subject of *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves*. The scenery is very pretty, and some of the mechanical effects are ingeniously surprising. The harlequinade was too full of gymnastic exercises of the professor-and-carpet character; but these performances had their admirers. At

ASTLEY'S

The visit of *Guilliver to the Island inhabited by Horses*, with the unpronounceable name, supplies a subject for a pantomime very well adapted to display the peculiar resources of the establishment. The spectacle is mounted with great care and judgment; but the wonderful training of the horses would alone prove an attraction.

At the OLYMPIC, ADELPHI, and ST. JAMES'S, Barlesque supplies the place of Pantomime. We must defer our notice of these theatres for the present.

The extraordinary performances of monkeys and dogs—which so much delighted their relatives, the frequenters of the gardens in the Bay of Cremorne—are now to be seen at the Marionette Theatre, and we recommend the entertainment as one calculated especially to delight the young holiday gentlemen who are, doubtless, proving no other place to be like home.

JULLIEN has transferred his entire troupe to Covent-Garden. The programme is identical with the recent one which was so popular at Drury-Lane.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, December 26.

BANKRUPT.—EDWARD JENNER STANNARD, Trinity-square, Tower-hill, wine merchant.—WATSON LEMON, Bridgehouse-place, Newington-causeway, painter.—JOHN HALL, Camden-town, wharfinger.—CHARLES MAIDLOW, Adelaide-terrace, Westbourne-grove, builder.—HENRY SALLI, Colchester, grocer.—SAMUEL TYLER, Denham, Bucks, innkeeper.—THOMAS STANLEY, Goudhurst, Kent, general dealer.—FRANCIS GEORGE EXINS, Greenwich, watchmaker.—ISAAC BARTON, Stafford, grocer.—JANE WARREN, Bristol, haberdasher.—JOHN EVANS, Exeter, bookseller.—GEORGE BRAND HUSSEY, Plymouth, innkeeper.—JOHN HANSELL, Manchester, tobacconist.—EDWARD WRIGHT, Welbeck, Holderness, Yorkshire, draper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—DAVID SMITH and WILLIAM GARDNER, Glasgow, wrights.—JAMES M'INTOCK, Greenock, bootmaker.—ROBERT MACDONALD, Glasgow, tea merchant.—WILLIAM MACNATE, Glasgow, bookbinder.

Friday, December 29.

BANKRUPT.—SAMUEL LAMPKIN, Gibson-street, Lambeth, baker.—GEORGE FIFOOT LYDE, Church-passage, Basinghall-street, sewed muslin maker.—JAMES ATKINSON and ALFRED ATKINSON, Huntingdon, drapers.—HENRY ALBERT LINFORD, Sherborne-lane, City, tavern keeper.—GEORGE JAMES LOE, Chertsey, builder.—CHARLES MAYTON CROOKS, Church-row, Houndsditch, licensed victualler.—JAMES MORTIMER, Grosvenor-road, St. John's-wood, builder.—WILLIAM KINTON GIBBS, Dudley, grocer.—ANN WILKINSON, Crossness, Salop, innkeeper.—BATHURST STEEL, Sheffield, glass dealer.—ISADORE BENSTEIN, Liverpool, commission agent.—GEORGE BRAND HUSSEY, Plymouth, innkeeper.—JOHN MARSHALL, Tordmorden, York, cotton spinner.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, December 29, 1854.

CONSOLS have been flat the whole week. The French Loan has had the effect of lowering French Rentes, and this keeps our own Funds low—not that the new French Loan is likely to take much capital out of this country, for being a national loan, it will doubtless, like the former loan, be eagerly taken up throughout France. But pending the visit of "Von Usedom" to England, and the Vienna intricate diplomatising, which would seem commencing again, the moneyed world is at fault and resting for fear of a false step. Railway Shares maintain rather a good price considering the weak state of the Funds. Banks are pretty much the same. Land Companies show good prospect of dividends, the South Australian setting the example. Mines are entirely neglected by outside speculators. Crystal Palaces are dealt in to a considerable extent, but are quoted at nearly the same price as last week. Turkish Scrip is still improving, and as it is understood there are some heavy Bears in Turkish, we may see it at a premium suddenly.

Consols close at four o'clock, for opening January 31st, 1855, 91½.

Caledonians, 60½; Eastern Counties, 11, 11½; North Western, 100½; 74, 75; York, 52, 53; London and North Western, 100½; 101; Great Western, 69½; 70; London and South Western, 83½; 84; London and Brighton, 106, 108; Oxford, 31, 32; Dovers, 58½; 59½; Midlands, 68, 69½; Leeds, 73½; 73½; Antwerp, 64, 65; Great Luxembourg, 24, 25; Eastern of France, 30½; 31; Paris and Lyons, 18½; 19½; Paris and Orleans, 44, 45; Paris and Rouen, 36, 38; Namur and Liege, 64, 7, with int.; Western of France, 44, 45 pm.; East Indian, 1, 1½; Ditto Extension, par, 4; Agua Frías, 4, 14; Brazil Imperial, 21, 22; St. John del Rey, 30, 32; Nouveau Monde, 1, 1½; South Australian (Copper), 1, 1½; United Mexican, 23, 24; Linares, 8, 9; Australasian Bank, 80, 82; Oriental Bank, 37, 39; London Chartered of Australia, 214, 22; Union of Australia, 68, 70; Australian Agricultural, 36, 37; Peel River, 24, 25; Scottish Investment, 11, 12; North British Land and Loan, 4, 1; Crystal Palace, 31, 32; South Australian Land, 37½, 38½.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	209	209	207½	209½	209	209
3 per Cent. Red.	91½	91	91	91	91½	91½
4 per Cent. Con. An.	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut
Consols for Account	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½
3½ per Cent. An.	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut
New 2½ per Cent.	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut
Long Ans. 1860.....	45-10	45-10	45-10	45-10	45-10	45-10
India Stock.....	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut
Ditto Bonds, £1000	12	12	12	12	12	12
Ditto, under £1000	12	12	12	12	12	12
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	7	7	7	7	7	7
Ditto, £500.....	7	7	7	7	7	7
Ditto, Small.....	7	7	7	7	7	7

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds	Russian 5 per Cents	96	
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents.	Russian 4½ per Cents	87½	
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	1852	87½	
Danish 3 per Cents.....	101½	Spanish 3½ p. Ct. New Def. 185	
Ecuador Bonds.....	21	Spanish Committee Cert.	
Mexican 3 per Cents.....	21	of Coup. not fun.	5
Mexican 3 per Ct. for	Acc.	Venezuela 3½ per Cents.	91
Portuguese 5 per Cents.	38½	Belgian 4½ per Cents.	91
Portuguese 3 p. Cents.	38½	Dutch 2½ per Cents.	61½
		Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	91½

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee, Mr. A. WIGAN.
Monday and during the week will be performed, the New Comedietta,

A WIFE'S JOURNAL.
Brown, Mr. Emery; Harcourt, Mr. Leslie; Mrs. Brown, Miss Maskell.
After which, a New Fairy Extravaganza, by J. R. Planché, Esq., called

THE YELLOW DWARF AND THE KING OF THE GOLD MINES.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, Danvers, Clifton, White, H. Cooper; Miss Julia St. George, Miss E. Ormonde, Miss Marston, Miss Bromley, and Mrs. Fitzalan.
To conclude with the farce of

A BLIGHTED BEING.

In which Messrs. F. Robson, Leslie, Danvers, H. Cooper, and Miss E. Turner, will appear.

QUEEN'S CONCERT ROOMS, HANOVER-SQUARE.

THE AZTEC LILLIPUTIANS, THE REPUTED GODS OF IXIMAYA, AND THE EARTH-MEN, OR ERDMANNIGES. People who burrow under ground. The first of either race ever seen in Europe—the existence of which has been much disputed. Grand Fashionable Exhibitions, Daily, from 11 to 1 o'clock. Lectures at 12. Admission, 2s. Reserved Seats, 3s. Children, Half-price. EXHIBITIONS FOR THE MILLION in the LINWOOD GALLERY, Leicester-square. Observe the PRICES—Gallery, 6d. Body of the Hall, 1s. Stalls, 2s. Daily, from 3 to 5, and 7 to 9½. Lectures at 4 and 8. The Rooms, having been prepared for the purpose, will accommodate 1500 persons at a time. Miss Clarie Wallworth, Mr. Henry Smith, and Mr. W. J. Morris, on the Crystal-Opticonic, will assist these human puzzles (concerning whose history, birth, and abiding-place all the world are at variance), forming an Entertainment unlike any before introduced to the London public. History of the Aztecs, 1s., and Earthmen, 6d.

NIAM-NIAMS, or the TAILED FAMILY OF CENTRAL AFRICA.

now to be seen for the first time in Europe at DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM (top of the Haymarket). Open as usual. Lectures to Gentlemen by Dr. Sexton, and to Ladies by Mrs. Sexton. Admission, One Shilling.

N.B.—A Descriptive Pamphlet of the Niam-Niams, price Sixpence, with a plain engraving; ditto coloured, One Shilling. To be had at the Museum. Free by Post 4d. extra.

THE 16s. TROUSERS reduced to 14s.—

Trousers and Waistcoat, 22s.—Cont. Waistcoat, and Trousers, 47s., made to order from Scotch Tweeds, all wool, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street. A perfect fit guaranteed.

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MR. ARRIVABENE, D.L.L., from the University of Padua, who has been established in London for three years, gives private lessons in Italian and French at his own house, or at the house of his pupils. He also attends Schools both in town and country. Mr. ARRIVABENE teaches on a plan thoroughly practical, and the most mediocre mind cannot fail to thoroughly comprehend his lessons.

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Joyce's Patent, for warming halls, shops, greenhouses, storerooms, and all other places. Price from 12s. To be seen in action at the proprietor's, SWAN NASH, 253, Oxford-street, and the CITY DEPOT, 119, Newgate-street, London. PATENT PREPARED FUEL, 2s. 6d. per bushel. JOYCE'S PORTABLE LAUNDRY STOVE will heat for 12 hours six flat and GAS STOVES in great variety. MODERATOR LAMPS, complete, from 12s. to 6 guineas. SWAN NASH solicits an inspection of his new and elegant SHOW-ROOMS, in which he has an assortment of the above lamps, unequalled for price and quality in London. Refined Rape Oil, 5s. per gallon. Prospectuses, with drawings, free.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

THE MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS

is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so often hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer, Mr. JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE CAPS, &c., for VARI-COSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 10s. Postage, 6d.

DEAFNESS.—IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

—Dr. MANFRED, M.B.C.S., has this day published, free by post for eight postage stamps, a Physician's Guide for Country Patients, for the Perfect and Permanent Restoration of Hearing, by his invaluable New Treatment. Being a stop to quackery, cruel impositions on the suffering public, and exorbitant charges, this book will save thousands from the impositions of the self-styled doctors, inasmuch as the hearing can be restored for life. Deafness of the most inveterate nature relieved in half an hour, cured in a few hours, almost instant cessation of noises in the ears and head, by painless treatment. Hundreds of letters may be seen, and persons referred to, who have heard the usual tone of conversation in a few hours. Patients received daily at Dr. Manfred's residence, 72, Regent-street, London (first floor in Air-street), where all letters must be addressed.

DEAFNESS AND SINGING NOISES.—

Instant relief by Dr. HOGHTON'S new and painless mode of cure. Any extremely deaf sufferer, by one visit, is permanently enabled to hear with ease the usual tone of conversation, without operation, pain, or the use of instruments. Thirty-four patients cured last week; many totally deaf instantaneously restored to perfect hearing. Testimonials from the highest medical authority in London can be seen, and persons referred to.

The above discovery is known and practised only by Dr. Houghton, Member of the London Royal College of Surgeons, May 2, 1845; L.A.C., April 30, 1846. Institution for the Cure of Deafness, 9, Suffolk-place, Pall-mall.

Just published, Self-Cure of Deafness, for country patients—a stop to empiricism, quackery, and exorbitant fees—sent on receipt of seven stamps, free.

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Strong Congou Tea, 2s. 6d., 2s. 10d., and 3s.
 Rich Souchong Tea, 2s. 6d., 2s. 10d., and 3s. 6d.
 The Best Assam Pekoe Souchong Tea, 4s.
 Prime Gunpowder Tea, 3s. 6d., 4s., and 4s. 6d.
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 Prime Coffee, 1s., 1s. 2d., and 1s. 3d.
 The Best Mocha and the Best West India Coffee, 1s. 4d.
 Sugars are supplied at market prices.

All goods sent carriage free by our own vans, if within eight miles. Teas, coffees, and spices sent carriage free to any railway station or market-town in England, if to the value of 40s. or upwards, by

PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea Merchants, 8, King William-street, City, London.—Our large consignments of new French and Spanish Fruits are in very fine condition this year, and are now on show at our Warehouse, 8, King William-street, City.—For prices, see general Price Current, post free on application.

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THE ONLY EXISTING PATENT.

And Strongly recommended by the Medical Profession.

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To enumerate the many advantages derived by the Public from the use of the Improved Patent Groats is not the intention of the Patenters; suffice it to say that, by the process of manufacture, the acidity and unpleasant flavour so generally complained of in other preparations is totally obviated, and very superior Gruel speedily made therefrom. It is particularly recommended to those of consumptive constitutions, Ladies, and Children; and the healthy and strong will find it an excellent Luncheon or Supper.

The Barley being prepared by a similar process is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce a light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged; and to contain all the necessary properties for making a delicious pudding. It has also the distinguishing character for making very superior Barley Water, and will be found a most excellent ingredient for thickening Soups, &c.

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PREPARED for Medicinal Use in the Loffoden

Isles, Norway, and put to the Test of Chemical Analysis. Prescribed by eminent Medical Men as the most efficient REMEDY for CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, some DISEASES of the SKIN, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS—effecting a cure or alleviating suffering much more rapidly than any other kind.

PURE AND UNADULTERATED.**TESTIMONIAL FROM**

ARTHUR H. HASSALL, M.D., F.L.S.,

Member of the Royal College of Physicians,

Physician to the Royal Free Hospital,

Author of "Food and its Adulterations," &c. &c.

"Dear Sir,—I beg to return my acknowledgments for the copy of your Work on Cod Liver Oil, with which you have favoured me. I was already acquainted with it, and had perused it some time previously with considerable gratification, especially the chapter devoted to the consideration of the adulteration of Cod Liver Oil."

"I have paid, as you are aware, much attention to the subject of the adulteration of drugs. Amongst the articles examined, I have not overlooked one so important as Cod Liver Oil, and this more particularly since it is a very favourite remedy with me, and is, moreover, so liable to adulteration by admixture with other, especially inferior Fish Oils. I may state that I have more than once, at different times, subjected your Light Brown Oil to chemical analysis, and this unknown to myself, and I have always found it to be free from all impurity, and rich in the constituents of bile."

"So great is my confidence in the article, that I usually prescribe it in preference to any other, in order to make sure of obtaining the remedy in its purest and best condition."

"I remain, yours faithfully,

(Signed) "ARTHUR H. HASSALL, M.D.,

"Bennett-street, St. James's-street,

"1st December, 1854.

"To Dr. De Jongh, the Hague."

Sold in London by ANSAR, HARFORD, and Co., 77, Strand. Dr. De Jongh's sole accredited Consignees and Agents for the United Kingdom and the British Possessions, and sent by them, CARRIAGE FREE, to all parts of town.

May be obtained, in the Country, from respectable Chemists and Vendors of Medicine. Should any difficulty be experienced in procuring the Oil, Messrs. ANSAR, HARFORD, and Co. will forward four half-pint bottles to any part of England, CARRIAGE PAID, on receipt of a remittance of Ten Shillings.

Half-pints (16 ounces), 2s. 6d.; Pints (20 ounces), 4s. 6d.; Quarts (40 ounces), 8s.—IMPERIAL MEASURE.

CAUTION.—The bottles are labelled with Dr. De Jongh's stamp and signature, without which none are genuine. The Public are specially cautioned against frequent attempts to induce them to purchase other kinds of Cod Liver Oil, under the pretence that they are the same as Dr. De Jongh's, or equally efficacious.

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STOVES for the economical and safe heating of halls, shops, warehouses, offices, basements, and the like, being at this season demanded, WILLIAM S. BURTON invites attention to his unrivalled assortment, adapted (one or the other) to every conceivable requirement, at prices from 10s. each to 30 guineas. His variety of registrar and other stoves is the largest in existence.

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The Real NICKEL SILVER, introduced 20 years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when PLATED by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

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Tea Spoons, per dozen	15s.	20s.	32s.
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Tea and coffee sets, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.

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Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen	12s.	25s.	30s.
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The Largest, as well as the Choicest, Assortment in existence of FRENCH and ENGLISH MODERATEUR, PALMER'S, CAMPHINE, ARGAND, SOLAR, and other LAMPS, with all the latest improvements, and of the newest and most recherche patterns, in ormolu, Bohemian, and plain glass, or papier maché, is at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, and they are arranged in one large room, so that patterns, sizes, and sorts can be instantly selected.

Real French Colza Oil, 5s. per gallon.

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